

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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BIGNONE HAS 'INFORMAL MEETING' WITH EDITORS

PY211657 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Jul 82 p 9

[Text] HERALD editor James Neilson and managing editor Ronald Hansen were yesterday invited to an informal meeting with President Reynaldo Bignone. The meeting lasted an hour and 25 minutes and Government House sources privately said it was the longest on record.

The meeting was extremely cordial and frank and numerous subjects were discussed, particularly institutionalization and the human rights picture.

President Bignone told the HERALD representatives that he was firmly committed to elections on schedule. If there was any variation on the schedule, he said, it would "certainly not be a postponement of the March 1984 date."

He said that updating the electoral rolls was a problem which varied from province to province, that in some cases the rolls were almost up to date but in others it would take as much as six months to normalize them.

The president, replying to a question by Neilson, said that relations with the United States would be "normal" even if he could not for the moment describe them as "cordial" but that he did not foresee any immediate defreezing of the relationship with Britain, "although the lifting of sanctions by Britain would help."

"Too much has happened and it is all too fresh in our memories," he said. Bignone also said that it was impossible to publish lists of missing persons because the government "simply does not know what has happened to them -- whether they are dead or whether they are living elsewhere." The president said "There is no way we can report a person as dead unless we know where the body is."

The president agreed with the principle that people should be charged or released and told Neilson "your arguments are irrefutable," but, he said, the dangers of releasing the approximately 400 people at the disposal of the executive branch were simply too great for this to be done at once. Nonetheless, batches of prisoners were being freed from time to time and he predicted that the number of persons detained at the disposal of the executive branch would gradually diminish to zero, "but it will take time."

Among specific cases mentioned were those of Gustavo Westerkamp and Juan Graiver. Referring to the dismissal of charges against the Graiver family, Bignone said "This could not have happened in Argentina three years ago."

He recalled that he himself had had his house blown up by terrorists. "It was a bloody war and its consequences will be felt for a long time," he said.

Hansen asked him whether it would not be politically advantageous if more information was made available on disappearances of persons outside the sphere of the "dirty war" like Elena Holmberg, Eduardo Sajon, etc.

"The government has absolutely no idea what happened to these persons," replied President Bignone. "And remember that in all cases their deaths discredited the government, so we were the people most interested in finding out what had happened."

BITTEL INTERVIEWED ON PERONISTS' SITUATION

PY211714 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Jul 82 p 9

[Interview "this week" with Deolindo Bittel, first vice president of the Justicialist Party, by correspondent Douglas Tuesdale]

[Text] [Question] Are you confident that the next Government of Argentina will be a Peronist government?

[Answer] No...we are still a majority movement -- I think. But it's very difficult to tell, since it has been six years since there were elections. You'd have to have a crystal ball to know what's going to happen.

Normally majority parties can be very confident of the support of the masses, but one has to be very careful in this case -- it is easier said than done. Parties will have learned many things in these six hard years, which have been truly disastrous for the country. I believe, I have faith that we'll win the elections, but I can't say to definitely.

[Question] The Radical Party had its internal power struggle at the plenary committee meeting last weekend -- when and how is the power struggle between the different factions of Peronism going to take place?

[Answer] What the Radicals had was not a real power struggle -- it was only one aspect of their internal struggle. The real definitions will come with the reorganization of all the parties, after the campaign to attract new members begins.

The test for Peronism as well as the Radicalism will come when the party membership rolls are opened, giving anybody who wants the chance to join a party. This goes for the four and a half to five million youths who have never had the opportunity for political participation because of the six-year ban on politics, as well as the those who simply never belonged to a party.

[Question] Some groups within your party have been manoeuvring to question the legitimacy of the current leadership -- how do you see this challenge?

[Answer] There's a confusion here I want to clear up -- the present leadership of the parties has been confirmed because Law 21,600, which extends the mandates of the leaders, is still in effect. And it's natural that it should stay in effect, because otherwise all of the parties would be left without leadership according to their charter.

The Peronist charter establishes new elections for party leadership every two years, and the current leaders were elected in 1976. Their mandate won't end until there can be new elections in the parties and Law 21,600 can be repealed.

[Question] Are you satisfied with the terms and the time the government has set for its promised return to democracy by March of 1984?

[Answer] I think this is a crucial point. We need at least eight months to reorganize, and the military government should immediately approve the political parties statute passed under (former President Arturo) Illia to allow us to begin as soon as possible.

It looks like the government is trying to delay things -- twenty days have gone by since this president was sworn in, and we still don't have a statute.

If what the government has solemnly promised about a hand over to a civilian government in March of 1984 is true, that means there must be elections in November of 1983 at the very latest.

[Question] Peronism is characterized by the tremendous range of differing political opinions within the same party -- do you think these differing views can be reconciled in time for the elections?

[Answer] I don't think there is any reason to get alarmed -- there are differing lines in all parties. I can assure you the ideological beliefs within Peronism are united; the differences are more formal and personalistic. The ideological unity of Peronism will not be split by an internal fight.

[Question] Are you worried about the challenged from the progressive wing of the party, which has called a rally for next Monday at the Boxing Federation?

[Answer] No, because Peronism has one special quality -- that the right and the left live side by side. To be a Peronist, one has to philosophically interpret the ideology of Peronism, which has nothing to do with right or left.

Peronism is not Marxism: on the contrary, it is an attitude, an active fight against Marxism, because we believe it is not the solution for the world's problems. We believe Marxism leads man to the exploitation of his fellow man through the state.

This does not mean we are individualists, either. We believe a liberal economic system leads man to become a slave to other men.

We propose a different scheme -- where the interests of the individual are harmonized with the interests of society. That is the third position of Peron.

[Question] How would you describe Peronism in terms of the present day ideological spectrum?

[Answer] I would say the Peronist movement is a centre-left political force. Which does not mean that it is Marxist. It is as much against Marxism as against liberal individualism.

This doesn't mean, as some believe, that we are enemies of capital. We simply want capital to serve the interests of the economy, and the economy to serve the interest of social welfare.

[Question] How do you explain this ideological synthesis to the voters?

[Answer] The Peronist masses are quite clear in their beliefs -- they know what Peronism is and they will not make mistakes.

[Question] If some unforeseen crisis were to make the government of President Reynaldo Bignone fall, what position would the Peronist party take?

[Answer] The possibility of a coup within a coup always exists, but we will not change our line. We demand that power be returned to the people in the shortest term possible, that full constitutional rule and popular sovereignty be reestablished immediately.

PRESIDENT CONFIRMS MENDOZA, CORDOBA GOVERNORS

PY202026 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1557 GMT 20 Jul 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 20 Jul (DYN) -- President Reynaldo Bignone today confirmed Mendoza and Cordoba Governors Bonifacio Cejuela and Ruben Pellanda, respectively, in their posts. This was announced by the two governors to reporters accredited to Government House.

Labor Under Secretary

PY210159 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] The labor minister today installed the new under secretary for union normalization, who, as you know, is Col (Navarro Yaluk). The labor minister spoke about the personality of (Yaluk) and his new functions. The minister stated that with this designation, we will be able to face with special dedication the issue of union normalization so this can be accomplished as soon as possible.

VILDOSO TAKES OFFICE AS NEW PRESIDENT 21 JULY

Vildoso Inaugural Speech

PY220353 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 0047 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Inaugural speech by President Guido Vildoso Calderon at Government House -- live]

[Text] Honorable members of the Junta of Commanders of the armed forces; Mr General, chief of the General Staff; Mr Admiral, inspector general of the armed forces; Mr General, commander of the Bolivian police; Generals, Admirals, Chiefs of staff of the different branches; Officers, Noncommissioned officers and sergeants of the armed forces; Distinguished ladies and gentlemen; Citizens of the fatherland:

I am assuming the presidency of the republic by order of the armed forces of the nation in a critical moment in Bolivia's history. When it seemed that all ethical, moral, spiritual and material values were on the verge of collapsing and would result in unforeseeable consequences for the future of the nation. I accepted this mandate given to me by a consensus of all members of the military institution, and not as a result of internal disputes or by the dissolution of positions in an effort to achieve power, events in which I have never participated during my professional career.

The current situation demands the participation of all Bolivians. We must overcome the feeling of defeat and of skepticism that affects all levels of society and creates an atmosphere of sadness and anxiety that tarnishes the Bolivian human condition.

The new state we are now beginning will not be easy. This state, although brief, will be extensive enough to accomplish the national objectives in answer to the citizens' restlessness to seek a path for a true democracy filled with rights and freedom. But it will not be difficult if we decide to work with decisiveness, total surrender and the desire to reach the objectives that will facilitate a better future for the fatherland.

Our first step to justify this ultimate stage of the military presence in the state's administration will be to try to meet the citizens' desires of democratic elections and the transfer of presidential power to the person who will represent the people's support through the ballot boxes on 6 August 1983. With this objective, to begin the democratization process with the next 30 days, I will ask for the contribution of suitable persons to help organize the electoral court, avoiding as much as possible the pitfalls of the past that resulted in a waste of time and money.

Nevertheless, to achieve this objective, we urge all citizens to cooperate with the political groups and to channel through them their desires and worries in an effort to seek solutions to our current problems within our human and material limitations, in order to avoid falling into past mistakes. The forthcoming elections to be held on 24 April will be fully guaranteed and will justify the government of the armed forces, which identified with the national desires and ordered the holding of elections in a relative short period of time.

The other important aspect of this government stage is that we will encourage private enterprise to depend less on imported goods and to adopt incentives that will help these enterprises look for other markets to improve the image of the nation, within the generalized desire for integration.

We will make all efforts to overcome the faulty administration of state enterprises, which are in part responsible for the state of economic imbalance. We will seek financial reorganization by reducing public expenditures and by reactivating the productive sectors of agroindustrial and nontraditional export products.

This will be accomplished in accordance with real interest rates which may avoid credits favoring speculation with foreign currency, in addition to other actions which may promote the citizens' interests and may justify our administration of public property.

In the economic field the government will have as an objective the basic fact that any economic system must be focused on the human being, and therefore all efforts must be guided to achieve economic and social development in an effort to improve the living conditions of all Bolivians. The economic, monetary and exchange policy will have the immediate objective of implementing the most appropriate measures and instruments to curb inflation, the high cost of living and especially the shortage of primary necessities, factors leading the working class to despair. These measures will seek the best solutions, respecting the ideas and opinion of the labor and business sectors, of producers and consumers, to reestablish the fundamental basis that will allow a reactivation of the national economy.

We will seek financial aid to cover indispensable demands and to reactivate the economy, the business and financial sectors, but without committing the country excessively to more foreign debts. This policy, however, needs a social truce because otherwise it will be very difficult to accomplish it due to the tremendous effort that respect for the government demands, respect for this government which today assumes control of the state. To achieve this objective, we will use all our energy to control prices especially those of primary necessities.

Human rights and constitutional guarantees for the people and the community will be fully respected by the new spirit leading to the democratization of the country. There will be no restrictions on freedom of expression, and in exchange we expect the responsible behavior of the communications media.

As we have been doing, we will continue an implacable campaign against drug trafficking, and the strictness of the control will depend on the means available to do so.

We will study the best ways to prevent unemployment, which can now be seen in the streets of our cities. We will leave for future leaders a clear and practical plan. The public administration, at the level of the workers, will deserve respect because public employees will not be removed, as this has been the painful part of government changes. We will admit ideological plurality as a sign of faithful enforcement of our national Constitution, which is going to become a permanent fixture in order to achieve the postulates of this administration.

We are aware that we must approach the elections with wide encouragement of economic possibilities because it would be a mistake to search for a permanent democracy with the state in a true financial crisis. In this task, a strong participation and general effort by the government and people is needed in order to be worthy of the real constitutionalization of the country.

In the international field the government will fulfill all commitments with world and regional organizations. We will maintain relations with friendly countries by searching for greater cohesion in commercial exchange in accordance with the principles of self-determination and nonintervention. We expect from the industrialized countries a pragmatic sensitivity to the new stage we are beginning today. Our efforts will not be circumstantial, but rather the beginning of actions which will be strengthened in the future.

Within the framework of the Andean group, Bolivia must not be the state that disturbs its process. We will put all our efforts behind this organization, not only because of its economic importance, which is really significant, but because of its political connotation, which is aimed at establishing the unification of the Andean states in a single economic, social and political power in the continent, thus fulfilling the legacy of liberator Bolivar.

In relation to the Latin American Integration Association, the River Platte Basin, Amazon pact, Urupabol and other organizations, we will continue to maintain our participation by searching for fulfillment of the national desire for integration and finding solutions to our landlocked problem to give a new image to the country.

Bolivians, let us unite our efforts to rebuild our economy, fully reinstate democracy, mobilize the country, overcome defeatism and have faith in the fatherland and in a better future for our children. This is a great commitment. A hard task is awaiting us. The government alone will not be able to find immediate solutions. However, as Bolivians we are believers in a better future due to the spiritual strength which is a legacy from our Aymara, Quechua, Cambaras and Chaparos forefathers and due to the Christian convictions which have kept us united to stoically stand the batterings of fortune.

I call on all Bolivians who are listening to me to unite in view of desperation, to engage in dialogue to find solutions and the appropriate alternatives to take us out of the stagnation we are in. Tomorrow's luck depends on today's efforts. Let us establish order, citizens' discipline. Conformity has never been the best defense. Let us overcome our defects. Let us help rebuild the nation. I am addressing the workers, peasants, professionals, women, youngsters, children of my country; the communications media; all the citizens. I exhort you to listen to these words because the success of my administration will not be a personal benefit or for the benefit of the armed forces. It will be a national victory which is going to eradicate the defects which have distorted the face of the Bolivian people and has placed them in the lower scale of life as people without a future or destiny. In order to reach the desired democracy, we will work together because if suffering was a painful destiny, happiness is waiting. Thank you very much.

Morales Speech

PY220426 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 0040 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Speech by Air Force Commander Natalio Morales Mosquera at Government House -- live]

[Text] Members of the honorable Junta of Commanders, President of the Republic Brig Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon, Chief of the army headquarters, Chiefs of the armed forces headquarters, Mr Commander of the Bolivian police, Distinguished departmental authorities, Messrs Generals, Admirals, Officers, Noncommissioned officers, Distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

Your Excellency, Mr President, I have the historical privilege of installing you, Mr General, in the office of the presidency on behalf of the armed forces' honorable Junta of Commanders. I am fully certain you will wisely, moderately and firmly rule the country in this transition period by observing the directions of the armed forces -- which reflect the will of the majority of the Bolivian people -- and that your main objective will be to lead the country to its democratic institutionalization. This will have to be done in an orderly and unbiased fashion and without disregarding any of the sectors of the country. You must commit yourself to handing over the government to that person who will be freely elected by the people under the constitution.

In this task being entrusted to you, it is imperative that you acknowledge the difficult situation the country is experiencing and the fact that it will be necessary to forcefully draft and implement an emergency economic and financial plan which will alleviate the crisis currently affecting the country. Basing myself on the personal traits of Your Excellency, I harbor the hope and I keep the faith of the Bolivian people and of the armed forces that you will successfully exercise the mandates given you on being sworn in.

We know that on account of the transitory nature of your government, perhaps time will not enable you to achieve all your objectives, to resolve the economic crisis and to achieve the country's democratization. However, we trust that God's inspiration, your capacity as a Bolivian soldier, and the examples set by Busch, Villarroel and Barrientos will enable you to continue to lead the nation to an improved situation in the economic and financial sectors.

The honorable armed forces Junta of Commanders have also decided to entrust you, Your Excellency, with the task of acting firmly in implementing the moral principles by ordering that the competent courts rigorously implement the law regardless of rank, title or grade, because this is an exemplary attitude demanded by the Bolivian people and one which will serve as a precedent to the conduct of the future rulers.

In conclusion, we convey to Your Excellency, Mr President, our best wishes for the successful fulfillment of your functions on behalf of the honorable Junta of Commanders and of the armed forces. We also hope you and your government will achieve major goals that will benefit the country. Thank you very much.

Villarroel Speech

PY220435 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 0110 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Speech by Defense Minister Alfredo Villarroel at Government House -- live]

[Text] Your Excellency Mr President, members of the high command, ladies and gentlemen: Under the critical situation the country is undergoing, we have been summoned by Your Excellency to cooperate in the difficult task that lies ahead for the government. We wish to express our gratitude to Your Excellency and we grant assurances that we will engage all our efforts and our love for the country to fulfill our tasks in the interest of the nation with loyalty and sacrifice.

We have a difficult and arduous task ahead. However, we will join together in our efforts and sacrifices, and we promise that we will comply with the mandate of the armed forces and of our convictions. We assume our responsibilities fervently recalling and echoing the words of late President Gualberto Villarroel that we are not the enemies of the rich, but we feel close to the poor. These words will guide our actions when we work on solutions to prevent the serious economic problems the nation is experiencing from harassing the poor.

Our greatest responsibility will be to achieve the country's institutionalization. We fully assume this responsibility, fully certain that [words indistinct] we will achieve the things that will best suit the country. In conclusion, I reassert to Your Excellency our deepest gratitude for our designations on behalf of my colleagues. We will fulfill the duty we have been entrusted with, and we will obtain the results the country is expecting from us. Thank you very much.

Armed Forces Mandate

PY220232 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 0034 GMT 22 Jul 82

["Mandate of the Armed Forces" read by Brig Gen Simon Cejas Tordoya at ceremony installing President Guido Vildoso Calderon at Government House -- live]

[Text] The honorable Junta of Commanders of the armed forces of the nation, in view of the resignation of Maj Gen Celso Torrelío Villa from the presidency of the nation, which he held by mandate of the armed forces, and in view of the need to reorganize the life of the republic toward its democratic, economic and moral recovery, with social peace and the institutionalization of the powers of the state, reassumes the leadership of the republic and agrees on the following basic norms:

1. Political:

A. The Junta of Commanders of the armed forces of the nation confirms the full enforcement and fulfillment of the national constitution for those who govern and for the people.

B. It maintains in effect the call for general elections which have already been established on the request of the armed forces of the nation through Decree No 19,19,066 for 24 April 1983.

C. In order for the democratization process to take place, the national electoral court will be designated within an unpostponable term of 30 days to guarantee the impartiality of the elections.

D. The Junta of Commanders guarantees the impartiality of the elections and promises to hand over the supreme command of the nation without objections to the candidate who is elected.

2. Economic:

A. It will carry out a short-term emergency economic plan to stop the serious crisis affecting the country aimed at its progressive economic recovery with the reduction of public expenditures, reduction of the budget deficit and revision of monetary policies.

B. It will promote exports and restrict luxury imports.

3. Social aspects:

A. It confirms and guarantees the right to free union and association membership.

B. It declares the enforcement of the general labor law in labor - management relations.

C. It will try to obtain the active participation in the administration of the state of the political, social and economic sectors of Bolivian society.

4. International:

A. The Junta of Commanders reiterates the enforcement and fulfillment of all international treaties and commitments signed by Bolivia.

B. It will maintain and strengthen the cordial and friendly relations with the countries that have links with Bolivia, particularly reiterating the country's support for integration.

La Paz, July 1982. Signed: Maj Gen Natalio Morales Mosquera, commander of the Bolivian Air Force; Vice Adm Oscar Pammo Rodriguez, commander of the Bolivian Navy; Maj Gen Angel Mariscal Gomez, commander of the Bolivian Army.

New Cabinet

PY220248 La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish 0105 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Presidential Decree No 19,075; dated 22 July 1982]

[Excerpt] The following citizens are hereby named ministers:

Foreign minister	Agustin Saavadra Waisse
Interior, immigration and justice minister	Lt Col Edgar Rojas Ruiz
National Defense minister	Maj Gen Alfredo Villarroel Barja
Aeronautics minister	to be named
Finance minister	Alfonso Revollo (Tellier)
Planning and Coordination minister	Brig Gen Amadeo Saldias (Cordero)

Education and culture minister
Transport and communications minister
Industry, commerce and tourism minister
Labor and labor development minister
Mines and metallurgy minister
Public health and social security minister
Agriculture, livestock and campesino
affairs minister
Energy and hydrocarbons minister
Urban development and housing minister
Minister secretary general of the
presidency
Minister secretary general for integration
Information minister

Marcelo Calvo (Valda)
Navy Capt Douglas Estrema Doiro (Garcia)
Lt Col Jorge Escobar (Sanchez)
Col Julio Villa Gomez (Vargas)
Brig Gen Octavio Villavicencio Quintanilla
Dorian Gorena (Urizar)

Col (Victor) Hugo Balderrama
Lt Col Augusto Sanchez (Halley)
Lt Col Manuel Lujan (Alva)

Alfredo Careaga (Greca)
Capt Jose Antonio Ona (Costas)
Hugo Gonzales Rioja

MILITARY SECTOR DELAYED VILDOSO'S INAUGURATION

PY211807 Paris AFP in Spanish 1734 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] La Paz, 21 Jul (AFP) -- Radio Fides of La Paz revealed today, quoting well-informed sources, that various Bolivian military units expressed opposition to Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon's assuming the presidency. According to the radio, which is owned by the Jesuits, commanders in the interior of the country said Vildoso played a prominent role, together with Col Faustino Rico Toro and Col Luis Arce Gomez, in the coup d'etat led by Gen Luis Garcia Meza on 17 July 1980.

Radio Fides emphasized that the position taken by that military sector played a decisive role in preventing Vildoso from assuming the post as president today as planned. The ceremony was postponed.

It was noted here that the crisis in the Bolivian Army is becoming more serious by the minute, and political analysts believe the problem will not be (?solved) until one of the two wings of the military -- the hardliners or the institutionalists -- wins the upper hand.

Air Force Opposition

PY220338 Paris AFP in Spanish 0324 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] La Paz, 21 Jul (AFP) -- The New Bolivian president, Brig Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon, has encountered his first opposition in Col Vito Ramirez, commander of the air force group based in Trinidad (Beni), in the north of the country. Ramirez indicated that he disagrees with the strictly military solutions with which the country's political problems are to be resolved.

In a statement made over the telephone, Ramirez stated that the new government has been put together without the opinion of the political parties and labor organizations, whose opinion, he added, is very necessary in a time of crisis such as the current one.

No similar statements have been heard from any other sector within the country, at least up to the present time.

Moreover, a few hours before Vildoso Calderon was installed, the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) decided to remain on a state of alert and it repeated its protest regarding the changes made within the government behind the backs of the people.

HURTADO DISCUSSES NATIONAL ISSUES WITH NEWSMEN

PA191519 Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 0131 CMT 19 Jul 82

["The President and the Press": Discussion between President Hurtado and local newsmen in the studio of Quito Channel 4 television -- live]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr President, we are participating in this dialogue at a critical time for the country. There is disquiet; there is insecurity; there is discontent among the people, who are beset daily by the high cost of living. To be silent about this would be to turn our backs on reality; and although we realize that a crisis of the magnitude of what we are enduring is not simply produced from one year to the next, and though we also know that we are being affected by the international recession and by the stagnation in world trade, we must admit that our internal crisis, carried over from previous years, has become more acute, due to various factors -- the decline in productivity; the foreign debt since 1977, which has been brought forward to the present, and the political distribution of positions and of institutions, often to incompetent people. In the opinion of many sectors, the crisis has grown worse, not so much because of government decisions as because of government indecision and inconsistency.

Where is the country heading, Mr President? What is happening? What measures does the government plan to take to try to stabilize the exchange market, the dollar market?

[Answer] Your question generates many answers. As you note, social problems, conflicts, the unrest are not the sole inheritance of Ecuador. Such manifestations are seen in all of the world's countries, and not just in the capitalist countries but in the socialist countries as well. I could mention the case of Poland as a example. I would say Ecuador's problems, in comparison with those of other Third World countries, are infinitely less serious. The point is that in this country we live in a state of economic narrowmindedness that prevents us from looking at the horizon. We have only to read the economic pages of the newspapers of the last 2 weeks to see this. Ecuadoreans must surely have noted in those pages the economic tragedy affecting all the world's countries, including the northern industrialized countries.

There are no easy solutions to the economic problems of Ecuador and of the world. We must acquire patience so that we can weather the economic storm we are experiencing at this moment with the least possible cost. I say patience because we run the risk, should we try to solve all of the problems afflicting the national economy in the short term, of destroying that economy in the long run.

[Question] Allow me to return to the economic topic regarding the devaluation. The devaluation has undoubtedly harmed the Ecuadorean people very much. According to the last issue of the magazine SIEMPRE, each Ecuadorean needs a salary of 7,650 sucres in order to survive. This includes a breakfast of black coffee and bread costing 35 sucres, a luncheon without meat and sometimes an oatmeal porridge costing [figure indistinct] a snack consisting of herbal tea and bread costing 35 sucres, bus fare costing 40 sucres, a monthly electricity bill of 150 sucres, a month's rent of 1,500 sucres, a water bill of 100 sucres and nothing for notebooks, books, clothing and medicine because there isn't enough money for that.

However, as the devaluation hurt some, it also benefited others. We believe those who benefited from it were the moneychangers, the importers, the exporters, the businessmen and the industrialists. In other words, the same people who are now directly or indirectly promoting a coup d'etat, but it is not good for the Ecuadorean people to have a coup d'etat, a new dictatorship.

Why, Mr President -- and this was admitted by the health minister on a television program -- has this government made the greatest concessions to the country's economic and political rightwing? Why doesn't this government guide its action toward [break in transmission] those who benefit from your government's economic policy.

[Answer] When a decision is made on a devaluation, ideological considerations do not influence it. Therefore it cannot be said that one party can devalue and others can't. A Marxist party, a rightwing party, a leftist party or a middle-of-the-road party has to decree a devaluation when the economy presents certain situations. This happens in socialist and capitalist nations. Therefore it cannot be exclusively attributed to a way of political thinking. If you follow the history of the world economy, you will see that devaluations are carried out in almost all countries.

[Question] Mr President, the second part of my question was on the political connotations of the much-heralded coups d'etat. Where do the desires for coups originate? We maintain that they originate with the same pressure groups that hoard dollars, that have apartments in Miami and Europe; those same pressure groups that have benefited from all the economic measures. As for the political connotations, they do destabilize the democratic system to some extent. We Ecuadoreans are concerned now about how to stop those coup attempts and what your government is doing to stop them.

[Answer] I want to answer the second part of your question. I didn't avoid it deliberately. Why has the government helped private enterprise? Because if it did not, there could be a generalized bankruptcy of some economic activities that would result in unemployment and with it greater problems for the Ecuadorean people. In another part of your question you point to the matter of conspiracy, of the coup rumors. Unfortunately many people in Ecuador devote a great amount of their time to spreading rumors. Therefore every day a coup is invented, and the next day it is resolved. It is my opinion that today there is less talk about coups, but now there is more talk to the effect that there will be a new devaluation tomorrow, and the next day we are going to control the free foreign exchange market, that 2 days later we are going to confiscate financial property, and so forth and so on.

When faced with these inventions, (Bolas), as we call them in Ecuadorean political slang, I usually give one answer: If the government has an adversary about which it is worried and which it really fears, that adversary is the economy. That is the government's problem. It is the greatest difficulty we face. This applies not only to the government, but to the entire country: private enterprise and the workers. That is why I make this appeal: That we try to weather this storm at the least possible cost. However, to weather the storm involves not only decisions made by the government, but also the positions taken by private enterprise and the workers. I wish to tell you that some sectors of production only create more problems for the economy and the government.

[Question] Mr President, since you are a student of the nation's reality, what do you think is the real situation of the Ecuadorean people, whom you govern and represent? Are the viewpoints, guidelines and economic measures of this government leading to the structural change you have always proclaimed?

[Answer] You remember that once an opponent of the government described it as the worst government in Ecuadorean history, don't you? Afterward there was a very cute article by a very distinguished local newsman, who referred not to this government but to the OAS. He wrote more or less the following: When Mora was secretary general, we all believe he was the worst the organization had ever had. Mora left and was followed, I believe, by Lleras, and everybody agreed that Mora had not really been so bad, and Lleras was the worst. The same thing happens in this country. When Roldos was president, the same thing that is said of him: that the country had never been worse off and that it had never had a worse president. I believe the person who said this of me said the same thing about Roldos. That is what national political life is all about.

When the Ecuadorean people say we were better off under the dictatorship, they have forgotten many of the problems that existed during the dictatorship, many of the measures that were taken, and are feeling the pinch of the problems that today cause them all kinds of difficulties. However, when time has passed and these 5 years of democracy are analyzed, one will find that certain essential changes took place -- economic, political and social changes.

[Question] Mr President, we cannot fail to mention foreign policy. I would like to ask you, among several questions, what Ecuador's position will be at the next meeting of Latin American foreign ministers, or at a possible meeting of presidents to discuss some ideas that have been proposed since Argentina's tragedy in the recovery of the Malvinas, when the United States demonstrated that the OAS, the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, and the Inter-American Defense Board are organizations designed only to safeguard its own interests and not the interests of Latin America, which it calls its backyard. First of all, what will Ecuador's position be?

Next, Mr President, and pardon me for taking advantage of your patience, in Latin America, Christian Democrats are undoubtedly playing an important role. They already played this role on one occasion in Central America, in El Salvador, when one of their prominent politicians, Napoleon Duarte, led the country. However, that same Mr Duarte has just said in Paris that there is U.S. intervention in El Salvador, and that there is an attempt to regionalize and internationalize the struggle in order to destabilize governments that are not to the liking of the United States and Mr Reagan.

What is happening with the Reagan plan for Latin America? What about the normalization of relations between Bolivia and Ecuador, when the poor fraternal people of Bolivia endure coups almost every month or almost every day? What about the Riobamba charter of conduct? What about certain inconsistencies that are noted in foreign policy, when there is support for Argentina in its problem of recovering the Malvinas Islands; when there is a problem of detente between Ecuador and Peru, and when despite declarations Peru is establishing a land communications network in undemarcated territory; and when simultaneously we reject the Israeli aggression against Beirut yet support Israel in the matter of the occupation of the Golan Heights by force? Mr President, there are many topics we could address because they are of great interest to the local and international public.

[Answer] I am going to answer very succinctly to turn to a new conversation. [as heard] Ecuador has reopened its diplomatic mission in El Salvador in the wake of the electoral process in which the Salvadoran people participated; in other words, after the democratic system was reestablished in that country. Ecuador has resumed diplomatic relations with Bolivia because of the opening carried out by the last government, which permitted exiles to return to Bolivia and offered a democratic path.

Ecuador supported Argentina in its territorial claim, because we coincide juridically, since we both refer, in our territorial claims, to international principles, and moreover because a Latin American government cannot fail to be annoyed to see an imperial fleet off this continent at this point in the 20th century.

Ecuador protested emphatically, both over the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and over the annexation of the Golan Heights, not just because of the principles of the government's foreign policy, but also because this involved an act of territorial appropriation that Ecuador could never support, having suffered a similar act.

After the events in the Malvinas, the entire inter-American system is open to question. That incident will probably mark a division in the history of America's international relations. It seems to me that a consultation among Latin American countries is needed urgently to discuss the topics you mentioned as well as others. There has been a significant reduction of aid to the Third World by the developed countries. There are trade restrictions. Obstacles are placed in the way of our exports. There is an attempt to replace multilateralism with bilateralism, which reduced our bargaining power. I definitely do not believe a meeting of presidents should deal only with political issues. In the event that the conditions permit such a meeting, Ecuador would like to have economic topics discussed as well as political issues, because if there is one problem Latin America is facing at this time, it is the one that stems from the crisis in the international economy.

[Question] Mr President, a short while ago you mentioned an article by a newsman pointing out the common habit of criticizing those in power and calling them bad leaders. You said that the newsman, citing the OAS as an example, noted that as secretaries general, Mora, Lleras, Plaza and Orfila had all been termed bad, but that the people's opinion of them changed as time went by. I believe this is not merely habit: I believe something is wrong at the OAS and that they were indeed bad, to some extent. In any event, those OAS leaders did not manage to bring the OAS out in defense of peace, for example, or in defense of justice in inter-American relations.

We can say the same for our country. Perhaps such a habit does exist, but there is also the fact that this country, in its years of republican life, has not been able to overcome the conditions in which it has always lived. You said it is very difficult (?for all of us to agree), but perhaps this habit of terming leaders as bad results from the fact that we are still experiencing the problems we have always had. [words indistinct] concentration of wealth and power, and this trend grows as time goes by. We have a very inequitable distribution of income, which is what we term social injustice, and an ever increasing dependence on the foreign sector. This has been true since the birth of the republic.

What I am trying to say is this: With reference to the article you mentioned, isn't it possible that something might be truly wrong, that there is something at the bottom of this?

[Answer] The people always expect more than their governments can offer. You were kind enough to admit that I am not demagogic. I was not demagogic during the presidential campaign and I was not and am not demagogic in the presidency. Therefore, I cannot be accused of having promised to solve all the Ecuadorean people's problems, since I have never done so. It is going to take several decades to solve the Ecuadorean people's problems. No government, of the right or of the left, can transform the country in 5 years or can guarantee well-paying jobs for everyone, education for all Ecuadoreans and full health protection -- not even in those countries with revolutions, and far-reaching ones, at that, have these goals been achieved in 5 years; it has been necessary to wait 10, 15, 20, or even 50 years.

This is even worse for a regime like the current one, which faces several limitations. First, legislation is in the hands of the legislative branch, as it should be in a democratic regime. I would have been able to resolve several of Ecuador's problems more opportunely if laws had been passed in a timely fashion, but sometimes laws are delayed and, at other times, resolutions are passed that serve only to worsen our economic situation. For example, those that increase the fiscal load, or those that force the government to hire more employees, to create institutions or to increase the budgets of government organizations. This is our first limitation.

Our second limitation is the economic crisis. While the Roldos administration in 1980 and 1981 enjoyed an oil price of \$34-\$50 per barrel, during my administration the price has fluctuated between \$30 and \$31, up to \$34.25, and the fact is that petroleum accounts for 60 percent of our national exports. In the first 10 months of the constitutional regime, the international interest rate was from 9 to 10 percent. My administration is working with an interest rate of 14-20 percent. This means I have to pay twice as much on our public debt. In late 1979 and early 1980 approximately \$200 million had to be budgeted to service our debt. These are approximate figures, of course. Today more than \$800 million is needed for the same purpose. My government has had severe economic limitations.

Now, a third limitation is that I have had to rule with a minority, with nine deputies. Today I am trying to form an alliance to see if I can achieve a majority. This would be good for the country, the economy and for the Ecuadorean people.

These limitations keep us from accomplishing all that we would like for the country, and although I do not want to keep hammering on the same subject, despite these difficulties the country is advancing economically, socially, culturally and politically, and I believe Ecuador has enjoyed a period of more freedom and tolerance recently than it has had for many years.

[Question] Mr President, taking advantage of the freedom you have given the country, I would like to note that a minute ago you said you were trying to achieve a congressional majority for the good of the country, our democracy and the people. I would like to explain to the people how this congressional majority that you would like to achieve is going to benefit them. Please reply in plain language, as you usually do. The people are wondering if that majority, that political unity you are seeking, is intended to maintain not democracy but your own regime, in disregard of the nation's interests and the definitive fate of the people, or simply to shore up power.

[Answer] You claim the people say my only objective is to continue in the presidency until 1984. I would say this is one of my duties, because if I do not last until 1984 it is likely that democracy won't last until 1984 either. It is true that democracy can continue without me just as it continued after the president of the republic passed away. Now, instead of considering the possibility of a demise, let us consider the possibility of the overthrow of the president. If that were to happen, the most likely result would be a dictatorship, and I don't believe that at this time of crisis it would be to the country's advantage to have a new president every 6 months, because the next president would have more difficulties than I. At least I represent a legitimate regime, politically and legally. The president who would replace me would be a usurper, so there would be no constitutional succession.

To consolidate both the government and the democratic system, it is necessary to keep in touch with the Chamber of Representatives. Not to bribe them, for this would be an offense to the deputies, but to prevent a division between the executive and legislative branches like that which existed in the first few months of the constitutional regime in 1979. I do not seek a majority in the chamber so that they will merely approve everything the executive branch proposes, but I do believe a majority would be advantageous in bringing some projects, which have been dragging on for a long time, to fruition.

Think how beneficial it would have been for the country had the reform to the Hydrocarbons Law been approved in 2 or 3 months instead of in almost 18. Think how much better it would have been for the executive branch had the chamber not decided to increase the public budget, as it did in 1980. This is where our fiscal problem began, as well as the problem of the [word indistinct] sector, because one thing led to the other. The state budget was increased 76 percent.

This is the most effective way of destroying an economy. I wouldn't like this to happen again, to see the chamber create more financial obligations for the state. I said once that an economic decree that incurs 100, 200 or 500 million sucres in expenses for the state is more serious than the interpellation of a minister. It is much more serious. Any minister who is so questioned will have to render accounts, and if the country is not satisfied with his responses then the minister will receive the vote he deserves.

With a congressional majority, then, what we seek, as you can see, is not the survival of the government but the salvation of the national economy and the consolidation of the democratic system. I think this is in the best interests of all Ecuadoreans. The problem is that the country has had only a limited amount of democratic experience, and we usually conduct an opposition as if we were under a dictatorship, as if we were trying to overthrow the government. I don't mean they want to overthrow the government -- please don't misunderstand me -- but in practice such actions could lead to this. Opposition to a democratic regime should be, must be, substantially different from opposition to a dictatorship.

The government wants to maintain a relationship not only with the majority forces but with the opposition forces as well. Please be assured that the government is not at all opposed to meeting with the opposition, to hold talks and to try to reach agreements on whatever subject it can, for the good of the country. If, in these 2 years, we could reach national unity between the government and the opposition and between business and labor that I have so often discussed, you can be sure it would be much easier to weather the economic storm that we have had to bear this year and that is endangering the country's democratic system.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON COUNTRY'S AMAZON 'OBJECTIVE'

PA200253 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Text] The Ecuadorean Government's main objective in its territorial problem with Peru is the Amazon, Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez has said: [Begin recording] [Valencia] As I have said before, Ecuador's permanent objective can be summarized in one word: Amazon. What we have to determine is what mechanism to use to obtain that objective.

[Question] Does the Hurtado administration plan to set forth any particular plan with regard to the territorial problem?

[Answer] We are trying to establish some mechanism, some strategy, to obtain that objective. [end recording]

Discusses Israel, OAS

PA211415 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Jul 82

[Text] Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Luis Valencia Rodriguez has reiterated that Ecuador condemns Israel's attack on Lebanon, and he expressed hope for a prompt return to peace in that area: [Begin recording] I have already announced that Ecuador has condemned and continues to condemn the Israeli aggression in Lebanon. Ecuador, together with 137 other UN countries, voted in favor of the motion condemning Israel for this aggression. Ecuador thus has categorically condemned the aggression against Lebanon and demanded the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces. [end recording]

The foreign minister also referred to the possible creation of an Organization of American States without the United States: [Begin recording] I would say this involves certain risks. The first thing is to determine the effectiveness of such an organization and how solid its foundation would be. In analyzing the problem, we must consider the organization's effectiveness and avoid creating an organization that cannot take immediate, rapid action in cases involving the continent's interests. [end recording]

POLICE REPORT ARREST OF 13 TERRORISTS IN AYACUCHO

PY211325 Paris AFP in Spanish 0228 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Lima, 20 Jul (AFP) -- Thirteen persons involved in terrorism in Ayacucho Department were arrested by police today, according to information released in Ayacucho city, 575 km southeast of Lima. Police reported that five alleged terrorists were also arrested in Arcoyoc, east of Ayacucho city. They are accused of having participated in the raid on a cooperative farm on 13 July and in the looting of shops in Chumbe and Ocos. The police also said they were found to be in possession of explosives, arms and goods acquired during these raids.

Murder of Official

PY211320 Paris AFP in Spanish 1843 GMT 20 Jul 82

[Text] Lima, 20 Jul (AFP) -- Another execution has been carried out by a terrorist group in Ayacucho Department, southeast of Lima, where 350 police arrived yesterday to join the struggle against the violence in the area, the center of extremist activities.

According to information received today in Lima, a school and a high-tension tower were bombed, while security forces arrested 10 persons on suspicion of being involved in the killing of civilians.

In Cacamarca, 140 km south of Ayacucho city, capital of Ayacucho Department, the lieutenant governor, Antonio Inca Poma, was publicly executed by an armed group of 10 persons following a summary public trial.

Ayacucho, which has been selected as the main area of operations by the Maoist group "Shining Path," that is responsible for most of the terrorist attacks, is currently subject to far-flung dragnets by police, who now have more men and better arms and equipment. Despite the fact that seven provinces of Ayacucho Department are currently under a state of emergency, together with one province of neighboring Apurimac Department, several dynamite sticks were hurled at a school on the outskirts of Ayacucho city. It was also reported that the extremists blew up a high-tension tower in Cerro de Pasco, central Peru, cutting power to a portion of this area, where large state-owned mining concerns are located.

Reports have also been received that in Victor Fajardo Province, Ayacucho Department, police arrested four persons on suspicion of having executed a governor, while six activists found to be in possession of arms, explosives and hoods were arrested in Ayacucho city.

BRIEFS

JAPANESE LOAN -- Japan has granted Peru a credit for 9,370,000,000 yen (approximately \$40 million). The credit will be earmarked for the installation of 150,000 new telephone lines in Lima. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2341 GMT 30 Jun 82 PY]

ANDEAN PACT OFFICIALS -- Two men members of the Cartagena Agreement Board have taken over. They are Edgar Millares Reyes of Bolivia and Edgard Moncayo Jimenez of Colombia. They replace Jose de la Puente Radbill of Peru and Washington Herrera Parra of Ecuador. Pedro Carmona Estanga of Venezuela has been confirmed as the third member of the board for another 3-year period. It was also reported that Raul Salazar of Peru will take over as president of the Andean Reserve Fund, while Jose Corsino Cardenas of Ecuador will take over as president of the Andean Development Corporation. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0118 GMT 31 Jun 82 PY]

NEW OIL WELL -- It has been reported that a new oil well in the Pavayacu area is yielding 3,500 barrels per day and that national oil production may reach 230,000 barrels per day this year. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 8 Apr 82 p 1 PY]

DE LA MADRID VOWS TO CONTINUE FOREIGN POLICY

PA220336 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1921 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Jul (EFE) -- Mexican President-elect Miguel de la Madrid has said that there can be no changes in Mexico's traditional liberal and revolutionary foreign policy.

At a meeting of the PRI government party on international affairs, the future Mexican president said that there can be no changes, especially in the progressive stands upheld by Mexico during recent times.

De la Madrid said that Mexicans "are interested in stressing their commitment of solidarity with developing countries which are struggling against colonialism."

In his first statement on foreign policy, since he won the July 4 presidential elections by a landslide Miguel de la Madrid said that he will continue the rational and timely support to nationalist movements that are struggling for their freedom, democracy and social justice. He said that there are difficult times ahead for developing countries because the international situation will pose increasing hardships for their development. He said that Mexico has shown his willingness to help lesser developed countries and "we promise to go ahead with this conviction, in view of the present circumstances and to the extent that our own situation will permit."

He also said that Mexico should not be isolationist. He said that "we wish to participate within the international framework to establish a just, legal and balanced international order."

He said that multilateral organizations are the best means of defending the rights of developing countries and of proposing solutions to international conflicts, based on the principles of nonintervention and peaceful solutions of conflicts.

Referring to his country's militancy in the Group of 77, Miguel de la Madrid said that he will struggle to give the movement greater unity, stressing its members' common interests and needs.

He also said that the activities of groups of developing countries would be watched closely. One of these is the Nonaligned Movement. In his opinion, these groups cater to the needs of developing countries and are channels of political expression for their aspirations.

Among the main tasks of Mexican foreign policy, he mentioned the opening of new markets, the quest of new sources of foreign investment and financing, and cultural and scientific cooperation.

De la Madrid promised to support the increase in trade among developing countries, and to heed the efforts of those countries to establish systems of horizontal cooperation to help overcome economic problems.

PEMEX REPORTS PROVED HYDROCARBON RESERVES

FL202258 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2215 GMT 20 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 20 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Petroleum [Pemex] today announced that the proved hydrocarbon reserves amount to 72 billion barrels, probably to 80 billion, and the potential is somewhere in the neighborhood of 250 billion barrels. The statement adds that the proved reserves are those which have been fully determined by completed exploratory studies and evaluated according to experiences gained from producing wells.

Pemex stressed that of the 72 billion barrels of proved hydrocarbon reserves, 67 percent is crude, 12 percent liquid gas and 21 percent residue gas. The areas of petroleum exploitation are Reforma, Chiapas and Tabasco, the probe in Campeche, south of Veracruz, north of Tabasco, Poza Rica and others. Among the areas considered to have large oil deposits is Chicontepec.

BELIZEPRIME MINISTER PRICE LEAVES FOR MEXICO

FL220117 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] Leaving Belize today for Mexico City was the prime minister, the Honorable George Price. During his absence the deputy prime minister and minister of home affairs, the Honorable C.L.B. Rogers, is acting as prime minister.

COSTA RICAPILOT CONFIRMS ARMS SHIPMENTS TO EL SALVADOR

PA212158 Paris AFP in Spanish 1838 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (AFP) -- Nicaraguan pilot Renato Torrealba, who a week ago escaped from his country where he worked for the state airline Aeronica, here confirmed the charges about arms shipments from that nation to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

Torrealba asserted he had personally witnessed the shipments of arms to El Salvador from Managua's Sandino Airport, over a period of 4 months last year. He believes that such shipments continue clandestinely.

The Nicaraguan pilot, who held a news conference at a San Jose hotel Tuesday afternoon to reveal these charges, noted that the war materiel was transported at night from Sandino airport to a couple of landing strips on the slopes of the Momotombo volcano and from there transferred to El Salvador, where they were dropped by parachute.

Torrealba maintained that the pilots entrusted with transporting the arms received up to \$8,000 per flight; that the planes, usually C-47, Navajos and Aztecs, showed no registration of any type, but later were incorporated to the Sandinist air force equipment.

EL SALVADORARMY REPORTS REGAINING CONTROL OF SANTA CLARA

PA212319 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 20 Jul 82 pp 2, 42

[Excerpt] It was learned yesterday afternoon that once again army troops are incomplete control of the small town of Santa Clara, northeast of the city of San Vicente, a short distance from the Apastepequez Lagoon. Early yesterday morning, more than 200 terrorists surrounded the town and attacked the garrison headquarters with bazooka fire and other heavy gauge weapons. The members of the town's civil defense responded to the fire but the terrorists killed eight patrolmen and a youth, (Isaías Aguilar), the son of Mayor (Amalia Aguilar). Until yesterday afternoon, the whereabouts of that lady were not known and there was concern for her fate. It was said that the terrorists also took a soldier with all his military gear.

According to the information, the terrorists occupied nearly all the town and sacked stores, small businesses and homes as well as the health clinic which they left practically empty. Hours later, a national police convoy headed toward the town was ambushed on 58 km.

The report added that in view of this, the army sent more reinforcements supported by air force units. They fought against the terrorists on land and in the air. At approximately 1000, Santa Clara was under complete control of the army and pursuit of the terrorists had begun.

Meanwhile, other sources said that army troops continue with the dislodging of subversives operation in Las Vueltas, Ojo de Agua and Carrizal, Chalatenango Department, where terrorists had besieged the residents.

From another quarter, the authorities of other eastern departments of the country such as La Union, Morazan and San Miguel reported that all is calm.

PDC'S NAPOLEON DUARTE INTERVIEWED IN MADRID

PM220803 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 16 Jul 82 p 8

[Antonio Cano undated interview in Madrid with former Salvadoran President Napoleon Duarte: "D'Aubuisson Wants Power and We Are Prepared To Struggle To Prevent Him Attaining It"]

[Text] Madrid -- Question: Has the situation in your country deteriorated since you ceased to be president?

Answer: No, I do not believe so. I believe that we are experiencing part of the process. The fact is that people see it very simplistically. But we believe that the process is underway in response to the objective of a people who want to regenerate the structures and are conducting a search, but who at the same time do not want this change to be conducted violently.

Question: When you called the elections did you reckon that the extreme right could emerge victorious?

Answer: I do not believe that the extreme right emerged victorious. They achieved 30 percent and the Christian Democrats 42 percent. But there are five rightwing parties -- not extreme rightwing parties -- which adopted a coordinated passive stance to eliminate the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]. This was expected.

Question: Do you guarantee that there was no electoral fraud?

Answer: There may have been attempts at fraud by rightwing sectors, but the electoral fraud to which we are accustomed is by the government against the opposition, and this time the government guaranteed legitimacy.

Question: What is the nature of your relations with Roberto d'Aubuisson, leader of the extreme right and the strongman of the present situation in El Salvador?

Answer: I do not share his friendship. I have said "hello" to him twice. His career is that of a military intelligence specialist and I class him as someone who acts in accordance with such an outlook. He is accustomed to espionage and conspiracies. I share neither his viewpoints nor his theories. Some people, including the U.S. ambassador in El Salvador, accuse him of being the author of Monsignor Romero's death and to this end they point to documents which they claim constitute proof. I am acquainted with these documents, which have to do with weapons and money, but there is nothing that says that Major d'Aubuisson was the brains behind that death.

Question: What about your relations with the new president, Alvaro Magana?

Answer: The new president is the result of negotiations between the extreme right and the Christian Democratic Party. The extreme right wanted to impose an extreme rightwing president and an extreme rightwing high-ranking military man. We tried to prevent this and sought an independent president. Magana is an independent man who has participated in no political parties. He is a very capable and clever man and a good negotiator for leading a divided government.

Question: Do you believe that the process toward democracy is guaranteed with D'Aubuisson and Magana?

Answer: Yes, it can be said that the process is underway and that the direction is obviously toward democracy. There are at present no forces strong enough to impose themselves and this obviously means that the country's only solution is an election. President Magana has undertaken to act as guarantor of the democratic process and this is why we are willing to help him. Mr d'Aubuisson wants power and we are prepared to struggle to prevent him from attaining it, either by force or through elections. The other factor that we have not discussed is the left, of which it can be said that it has given the right its *raison d'etre*.

Question: Are we on the verge of a generalized war in Central America?

Answer: I believe that we were on the verge of it. In 1980-81 we were on the verge of a Central American confrontation of vast proportions, because internal upheavals and external confrontations had taken place. This is the very reason why I would never consider a war against Nicaragua.... It prevented the process of contamination from spreading and at the same time gave Costa Rica and Honduras the time to strengthen their nascent democracies. And of course, also external factors, such as President Reagan's stance, the Soviet Union's declaration on nonintervention in Central America and Fidel Castro's change of policy [sentence as published].

Question: Are you aware that your visit to Spain coincides with that of Nicaraguan Leader Daniel Ortega?

Answer: No, I did not know.

Question: Would you be willing to talk with him?

Answer: I am not now a statesman and therefore have no reason to talk to him, either on a state level or on a personal level. But if he wants to, I have nothing against it.

Question: Should there be another election?

Answer: Yes, the country needs a series of elections. There must be a presidential election, an election of mayors and an election of deputies, as soon as possible.

HAVANA: 'VIOLENT CLASHES' REPORTED IN SAN VICENTE

PA200403 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jul 82

[Text] Heavy clashes were reported in the last few hours in eastern areas of El Salvador. These areas have been practically isolated from the rest of the country by the heavy guerrilla actions on the main highways. The most violent clashes were reported on Monday morning after the rebels besieged Santa Clara, a town of 4,000 residents, located in San Vicente Department. The main guerrilla attack in Santa Clara was carried out against the army headquarters, where many soldiers and members of paramilitary groups were entrenched. In San Salvador electricity was interrupted in a vast area of the city after the rebels dynamited a high-voltage tower. Meanwhile, the army of the genocidal regime continues carrying out its so-called punishment activity in the Salvadoran Department of Chalatenango. The authorities say that there are guerrilla camps in that area.

RADIO VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON FMLN ACTIVITIES

Guazapa Hill Area

PA190130 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Text] From Guazapa Hill in the Modesto Ramirez Central Front our fighters report the following: On 14 July a column of FMLN fighters led by Commander (Dimas Rojas) staged an annihilation and recovery ambush between km 17 and km 18 on the main northern highway.

At 0345 15 enemy soldiers came along in a pickup. They were met with fire from RPG-2 rocket launchers and rifle fire, which set the vehicle on fire. This prevented our men from recovering any weapons; all they managed to recover were 18 G-3 cartridge clips, one .38-special revolver, 300 7.62-mm rounds and other war materiel.

Due to the impact of the bazooka fire, 4 enemy soldiers were thrown from the vehicle, and the remaining 11 died in the blaze. The vehicle was also transporting gasoline.

Our companeros withdrew without any difficulty. We want to stress to the public that the fire was caused by the gasoline in the vehicle, which was set on fire by the bazookas, and not as the enemy has charged. The enemy claims that our forces set the bodies of the enemy soldiers on fire.

Another report from Guazapa Hill: On 13 July two squads of guerrillas led by Commander (Jacinto Montiel) staged an attack on an enemy position located in [word indistinct] Nueva, close to (El Ichantejo) canton, causing the enemy five losses between dead and wounded. Following the 10-minute attack our forces withdrew without any difficulty.

More reports on revolutionary activity by our fighters on Guazapa Hill: On 16 July we carried out an operation entitled Heroes Who Fell in San Antonio Abad on 28 March, which was staged by a guerrilla column led by Commander (Moises). The guerrillas blew up an electricity tower in the area of Guaycume and staged an attack on the death squad garrison in San Juan los Planes, on the slopes of the San Salvador volcano. The attack lasted 2 hours and 30 minutes, and the following results were reported: 8 death squad members were killed, and the following materiel was recovered: 5 Garand rifles, 1 Czech rifle, 1 M-1 carbine, 130 Garand cartridges, 110 7-mm cartridges, 60 cartridges for carbines and other war materiel. On our part, Companero (Dido) was killed, and we lost an M-16 rifle.

And here's yet another report from heroic Guazapa Hill: On 16 July at 0900, also as part of the operation entitled Heroes Who Fell in San Antonio Abad on 28 March, guerrilla forces led by Companero (Tony) killed two enemy guards at the service station at the entrance to the City of Suchitoto. Our forces withdrew without any problems. This report was sent to us by Commander (Raul Hercules) from Guazapa, who brings to 26 the number of enemy casualties in these victorious actions.

Honduran Army Condemned

PA211545 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 19 Jul 82

["Analysis of the Honduran Army's Participation in the Salvadoran Conflict and the Regionalization of the War" by Commander Ana Guadalupe Martinez, member of the political/diplomatic commission of the FMLN/Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador -- live or recorded]

[Text] The role undertaken by the most reactionary sectors of the Honduran Armed Forces is to serve as a beachhead, an area gendarme or an important intervention force in Central America, to implement the Reagan administration's plans of aggression against the Nicaraguan people. The FMLN in El Salvador and the Guatemalan revolutionary forces.

These Honduran military sectors work against the Nicaraguan people when they permit Honduran territory to be used as a rearguard for Somozist counterrevolutionary elements. Recently, the Sandinist Government denounced the invasion of Nicaragua's northern region by more than 1,000 counterrevolutionaries. The Nicaraguan Government also revealed that this is merely a part of a plan prepared jointly by Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and the Honduran Armed Forces, which includes a greater act of intervention that is to involve 5,000 combined troops. With such actions, the fascist sectors of the Honduran Government and Army are endangering peace and stability in the region.

These sectors also work against the FMLN. The Honduran forces have broken their neutrality, permitting the Salvadoran Armed Forces to mount incursions into Honduran territory, so as to operate from there against FMLN positions. The Honduran Armed Forces have dangerously increased their participation in the Salvadoran conflict by coordinating operations with the Salvadoran Armed Forces. The Honduran forces have also played the role of a retaining wall by occupying positions along the border with El Salvador. The Honduran military forces are playing the role of executioner by perpetrating acts of repression against the people along the border, who are fleeing from the ruthless repression unleashed by the Salvadoran military dictatorship. They are acting just as they did on 14 May 1980, when over 600 Salvadoran peasants trying to cross the Sumpul River were murdered by the Honduran Army. These forces are also persecuting thousands of Salvadorans who have taken refuge in Honduras.

We recently provided evidence that the Honduran Army is involved in the Reagan administration's aggressive plans against the FMLN.

There are 2,500 Honduran soldiers in the border zone. They have advanced into Salvadoran territory to take positions near those occupied by the FMLN forces. Honduran and Salvadoran troops participated in a combined operation against FMLN forces in the zone of Las Trojas.

The neutrality observed by the Honduran Army toward the Salvadoran issue was broken by the irresponsible attitude of Gen Gustavo Alvarez and of those who are giving unconditional support to the Reagan policy toward Honduras. [Passage indistinct] We have been forced to defend ourselves in a war not only against the Salvadoran Army but also against the Honduran Army, which, under the command of General Alvarez, has taken on the role of flunky for the most reactionary U.S. sectors.

The price for these actions is war and instability and not only for El Salvador but for those who are intervening in our affairs, including the Honduran Armed Forces, which are carrying out the U.S. Government's interventionist plans.

General Alvarez and the military sector that supports him don't care if the Honduran people must suffer the consequences of their warmongering and interventionist policy.

General Alvarez and the fascist sectors of the armed forces are using Suazo Cordova as a front for what is really a fascist regime. They are betraying the Honduran people's goal of justice, democracy and peace. General Alvarez is also plunging the Honduran Government into a deep economic and political crisis, which will affect the poor classes.

It is unbelievable that Honduras, the poorest and most underdeveloped country in Central America, could engage in an arms race. The truth is that Honduras currently has one of the best armed and most technologically advanced military forces. It has the largest number of helicopters and better air force units than any other military forces in Central America. It has the best armored vehicles, modern infantry weapons and troops trained by U.S. military advisers. It is the most developed armed force in Central America, certainly more so than the Salvadoran Army, which is fighting the FMLN.

These improvements were not made merely for the defense of Honduras. They were made for fundamentally offensive plans, which have already been initiated; an example is the interventionist attempt that was defeated by the FMLN in the first days in July, when, under the direct coordination of Wallace Nutting, chief of the U.S. Southern Command headquartered in Panama, a total of 8,000 combined units from the Honduran and Salvadoran Armed Forces participated in actions in Morazan Department.

The arms race policy and these interventionist plans have contributed to a deterioration in the economic crisis in Honduras and throughout Central America. The fact is that the budget for the purchase of arms and for training and maintenance is for an army that is disproportionately large for a country like Honduras. This will cause a definite imbalance in its development plans, for funds marked for social development will be channeled to military expenditures.

The armed forces personnel have been receiving political indoctrination for these interventionist plans. This policy, promoted by the U.S. Government, has evoked a natural reaction for democratic and popular sectors of the population and the formation of revolutionary movements that are engaged in a just struggle for democracy and peace.

The FMLN has expressed, both in theory and in practice, its unbreakable determination to struggle for the Salvadoran revolution and its respect for and neutrality in Honduras' domestic affairs. But George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, thinks that Honduras' intervention in the Salvadoran conflict is both logical and natural. Thus, Gen Gustavo Alvarez is facing no obstacles in the war against the FMLN and the Salvadoran people.

It is the interventionist policy of Reagan and Alvarez that is causing the war in the region to spread and that is forcing the FMLN to defend itself from its enemies, wherever they are. It is the Honduran Army that is internationalizing the war, with its attack on the Salvadoran people. The FMLN is waging a just struggle on behalf of freedom. Our sister countries can never be brought to war by the irresponsible interventionist policy of the U.S. Government and of the sectors manipulated by Gen. Gustavo Alvarez. United to fight until the final victory: Revolution or death, we shall win.

June Operations Results

PA211610 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 19 Jul 82

[All figures as heard]

[Text] Military results of the FMLN forces' campaign throughout the country during the Commander Gonzalez Campaign in June 1982: sabotage of electric installations, 12; sabotage of powerline posts, towers and relay boxes, 56; sabotage of bridges, 2; sabotage of transportation, 90; sabotage of communications lines, 18; sabotage of water pipelines, 2; sabotage of the property of oligarchic families, 2. That is a total of 170 sabotage actions; barricades, 18; harassment of enemy posts, 11; incursions in cities and towns outside San Salvador [no figure given] control of highways -- the Pan-American, coastal, northern and other roads [no figure given]; occupation of towns; Perquin, San Fernando, El Carrizal, Ojos de Agua, 4; ambushes, 20; for a total of 207 actions by the FMLN.

We continue reading the FMLN military actions for June throughout the country.

Arms retrieved from the enemy: rifles -- G-3, M-16 and other -- 184, one 16-gauge shotgun, one .22-cal rifle, for a total of 186 rifles retrieved by FMLN forces from the Salvadoran Army; support arms; 60-mm mortar, 1; M-60 machinegun, 4; .30-cal machineguns, 3; 90-mm cannons, 2; M-79 grenade launchers, 4; 81-mm mortars, 3; for a total of 226 arms retrieved from the Salvadoran Army during the victorious FMLN campaign. Ammunition recovered: rounds of various calibers, more than 35,000; 81-mm mortar grenades, 14; shells for 90-mm cannons, 20; RPG2 grenades and M-79 grenades [no figure given]; PRT-77 radio sets, 20.

Army vehicles destroyed: army trucks, 4; one helicopter shot down. Army vehicles damaged: army trucks; 2; helicopter, 4.

Here are the enemy's casualties during the FMLN military campaign: 1,005 dead and wounded caused by our revolutionary army during the victorious battles.

These 1,005 casualties include officers with the ranks of colonel, major, captain and lieutenant. Prisoners of war taken, 48, including Deputy Defense Minister Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo, member of the army high command, and Lt Rafael Romero Romero.

GUATEMALA

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER ON REOPENING OF STATION

PA211445 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0500 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] Radio 1090 will be authorized to return to the air in a few days, since its owner (Edgard Arcida Marroquin), has now fulfilled legal requirements. Communications Minister Lionel Ortega announced today that his ministry is now conducting its final analyses before returning the station's crystal.

[Begin Ortega recording] The station has fulfilled the necessary legal requirements and we are now conducting the final analyses, so that we can return its crystal. I want to stress that there is no ill will or desire to hurt the news media on the ministry's part. On the contrary, this office has always been open to the media. We have maintained a friendly policy. I want everyone to understand that this ministry cannot permit [words indistinct]. [end recording]

The communications minister said that Radio 1090 will be going back on the air at any time. He also referred to the pressures in this regard: [Begin recording] We will authorize the station to go back on the air. There has been pressure from many sectors, particularly the media. They said that many families are going hungry because we closed the radio and that a great deal of money is being lost. Of course, we bear this in mind, but most important is the fact that the ministry has acted without any ill will; we have clearly shown that all we want is for things to be done properly. [end recording]

NEW MINISTER SAYS NO AGRARIAN REFORMS PLANNED

PA212139 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2004 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 20 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- The new Guatemalan agriculture minister, Leopoldo Sandoval Villela, today denied any agrarian reform program will be implemented in the country during his administration. This had been reported by LA REPUBLICA of Costa Rica. The paper in its Saturday edition published an interview with Sandoval to that effect.

The minister confirmed this during a news conference. Asked about the possibility of applying an agrarian reform in Guatemala, he said the decision must come from the highest level in case such a program is decided. He added that the issue should not be a matter of demagoguery since it involves an instrument of development.

ARMY REPORTS ON ACTION IN HUEHUETENANGO, QUICHE

PA212347 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] Members of the Treasury Police were wounded today during an attack on a patrol on 7 1/2 km on the road to the Atlantic. The patrol was on its way to relieve the companeros at the toll station. The attack occurred at 0720. The attackers, who identified themselves as members of the Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization [ORPA], were hidden in bushes. From there they fired at the patrol vehicle and perforated it several times. The attackers escaped in a pickup with private license plates No 59232. The pickup was left abandoned in the San Rafael neighborhood, Zone 18. Almost all the civilian patrols that support them [Treasury Police] and terrorist groups clashed yesterday and today in different northwestern areas of the country. It was officially reported today that the guerrillas had suffered 15 casualties.

One of these clashes was reported in San Mateo Ixtatan, Huehuetenango, when a group of insurgents attacked a civilian patrol. Three subversives were killed. In (Varillas), Huehuetenango, a military patrol discovered a subversive camp where eight terrorist were killed and a large amount of war material was recovered.

In Uspantan, El Quiche, a military patrol killed four subversives in another clash. The army reports 11 of its members were wounded during these clashes.

URNG URGES HONDURANS TO CONFRONT TOP ARMY COMMAND

PA220307 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] The Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] has urged the Honduran people to confront the top army command and the reactionary civilian sectors of that country that are converting Honduras into a gendarme of U.S. imperialism in its condemnable intervention in Central America.

The document recalled that on 27 June, more than 2,000 Honduran soldiers entered into Salvadoran territory and began an attack against revolutionary forces in Morazan Department which constitutes a serious precedent for the regionalization of the Salvadoran conflict.

EGP SCORES REGIME'S STRATEGIC VILLAGES POLICY

PA220315 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] The Poor People's Guerrilla Army [EGP] has condemned the regime's creation of military bands and strategic villages under the advice of U.S. and Israeli officers, noting that they are a new form of repression against the people.

By seizing houses, crops, domestic animals and many supplies, the soldiers are forcing the people to emigrate to areas under military control where they serve as parapet for the garrisons and cannon fodder for the regime's troops.

With the creation of strategic villages, the Guatemalan Army is trying to isolate the guerrilla movement from its natural base of support as well as to keep a large part of the population under military control.

HONDURAS

TEGUCIGALPA REPORTED NORMAL FOLLOWING CLASHES

PA211344 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] Security forces clashed with members of a subversive group at approximately 1900 last night, according to unofficial reports, as a residence in (Marichal) neighborhood was being searched by security agent was attacked from some bushes as he entered the post at Casa Mata. The only confirmed information received so far is that one woman died and several people were wounded when a bus was hit by crossfire.

Our correspondent (Armando Arevalo) submitted the following report: [Begin recording] Everything is normal this morning following a clash last night between the Cobra security corps and subversives. Only the main avenue, where the FUSEP [Public Security Forces] headquarters is located. Remains closed to traffic and pedestrians.

We have observed police patrolling the (Marichal) neighborhood. In an interview a few minutes ago FUSEP members said the situation is normal. Their units, however, are maintaining a strict patrol of the area, having closed the main street in front of the public security building to traffic and pedestrians.

We have not been able to obtain information as to developments at the house in (Marichal) that was surrounded last night. The agents have limited their statements to reports that everything is normal. We will provide another report as soon as we can obtain more information on the situation. [end recording]

POLICE DEACTIVATE BOMB NEAR GOVERNMENT PALACE

PA211238 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 20 Jul 82

[Text] It was learned from official sources yesterday that a group of unidentified men tried to stage another terrorist attack on the National Electric Power Enterprise [ENEE] on Sunday, but investigation officers foiled this attempt. Several terrorists placed a bomb at the main entrance to the ENEE building without the security guards' knowledge. This happened only a few meters from Government House, but no one noticed anything unusual despite the strict and permanent guard mounted at the Presidential Palace.

However, several soldiers charged with the palace's security noticed an unknown object at the main entrance to the ENEE building and called the national Directorate of Investigations, asking them to come to the site and investigate. A few minutes later, police explosives specialists arrived and deactivated the bomb.

The police noticed that the bomb was connected to the building's electricity post, a few meters away. A glass jar containing an unidentified liquid thought to be gasoline had been placed near the building.

The authorities could not explain how neither the security men nor pedestrians noticed that a bomb was being placed at the main entrance to the ENEE building, very close to the government palace and in the very heart of the city. It has not been learned whether the authorities have captured the alleged terrorists who were trying to perpetrate a second attack on ENEE installations, though on its downtown offices this time.

GOVERNMENT DENOUNCES START OF SLANDER CAMPAIGN

PA211306 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Jul 82

[Official communique issued in Tegucigalpa on 19 July by the information office of the Honduran presidential office's secretariat of state]

[Text] An intense misinformation campaign has been unleashed against Honduras, which is currently ruled by a democratic government, with the apparent purpose of justifying an armed attack on our country as part of the ideological struggle currently underway in Central America.

Among others, the following events are clear indications of this:

Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government junta, recently said that the Nicaraguan authorities are going to support the guerrillas who oppose the Honduran Government.

For its part, the FMLN called for an intensification of subversive actions in Honduras, and irrefutable evidence of this are the numerous attacks on our territory that have been denounced at various international organizations.

Nicaragua has refused to accept international vigilance and supervision, as proposed by Honduras, which would help to gather evidence as to who is sponsoring the acts of violence in the region, the arms traffic, the covert attacks and the other activities intended to destabilize Central America's democratic governments.

It has also refused to accept the peace plan drafted and proposed by Honduras, although the plan was fully accepted by several friendly governments. Before the international public, we denounce the defamation campaign launched against the Honduran Government, and we blame the authors of this campaign for the serious consequences that it might have.

PRESIDENT SUAZO RETURNS FROM TRIP TO U.S.

PA211218 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1935 GMT 20 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 20 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova returned here today from an official visit of several days to the United States.

Thousands of people holding giant posters with the president's picture acclaimed him at Toncontin International Airport as he stepped off the plane that brought him from Houston. Artillery batteries gave a 21-gun salute while a military band played the national anthem. Afterward the president, accompanied by Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the armed forces, reviewed the troops.

In Washington Suazo Cordova met with President Ronald Reagan as well as with representatives from U.S. Cabinet, from private firms with investments in Honduras and from various financial agencies. It has been reported officially that the Honduran president obtained more than \$300 million in economic aid for development projects in the country.

INSURGENCY CONSIDERED INEVITABLE BY YEAR'S END

PA202140 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1543 GMT 20 Jul 82

[By Francisco Javier Mejia]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 20 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Armed Forces are preparing for an armed confrontation with leftist guerrilla groups in the country which will begin before December, according to military intelligence officials. The same sources said that at the present time the Honduran Army is one of the area's smallest, consisting of 13,000 men, and is not capable of successfully facing an organized subversive movement.

On the other hand, the guerrillas appear to be ready to start the "Honduran revolution" as soon as the Salvadoran guerrillas manage to tip the struggle definitely in that country in their favor. On this matter Honduran military leaders agree that the fall of the Salvadoran Government under the guerrilla onslaught could mean the defeat of the system in Honduras.

Trucks similar to those used to transport frozen food are now distributing new weapons throughout the country to the different Honduran military camps and stocking up auxiliary equipment and supplies at remote military units.

Meanwhile, patrols of soldiers in civilian clothing are traveling through rural areas to try to anticipate the movements of the guerrillas, who are very active in the border areas. Groups of counter guerrilla experts are receiving special attention these days and many young officers are getting countersubversive training abroad.

According to reports in the hands of the army, the guerrillas have established safe houses in the country's principal cities, have an extensive radio network and constantly receive money and arms from abroad. With well-trained men and women, plus the advantage of the element of surprise and due to the great number of objectives the armed forces must protect, the position of the guerrillas is superior to that of the army at this time.

Many reports are received every week by the media concerning the disappearance of persons, bodies of unidentified persons appear tied up in plastic bags in different parts of the country in what appears to be an ongoing struggle. Nevertheless, army officers believe the "real war" will not begin until after a great assault programmed by the FMLN against the Salvadoran Government is pulled off in the next few months.

The United States, apparently alerted to the situation by its own intelligence services, has moved quickly to strengthen Honduras with a military aid plan. Local observers believe the United States will ask the Honduran government to implement a number of social reforms to take the pressure off the workers' and peasants' demands for higher living standards.

In this respect, Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the armed forces, has reportedly taken the initiative in promoting the transformation of some political structures in the country to make them more flexible and subject to change. At the urging of the military, young politicians tossed out Ricardo Zuniga Agustinus, leader of the conservative opposition, and replaced him with a group leadership, which will also be removed after a while to be replaced by the real new directors. The Liberals, in power since January 1982, are pleased with the reforms and the friendship between President Roberto Suazo Cordova and General Alvarez Martinez seems to confirm that the administration will survive its 4-year term.

NICARAGUA

MINISTRY PROTESTS ATTACK BY HONDURAN SOLDIERS

PA210535 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Note addressed to Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica by Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco dated 20 July 1982 -- read by announcer]

[Text] I am addressing your excellency to refer to the following: At approximately 0730 [1330 GMT] today, 20 July, a group of 30 to 40 Honduran soldiers attacked with small arms fire the observation post of the La Ceiba border post, 4 km west of Somotillo in Chinandega department. This attack was carried out treacherously and without any reason that could justify this new act of aggression against Nicaragua. The seriousness of this action cannot be ignored because it was committed, as we noted, by regular troops of the Honduran Army.

The criminal attack lasted 30 minutes and was repelled by the four Nicaraguan soldiers who were at the post. I want to emphasize to your excellency that these indescribable acts of aggression are being carried out at a time when there is a serious increase in counter-revolutionary activities on the northern border. This takes us back to situations which we understood had been overcome, particularly after the meeting that the chiefs of the general staffs of our armies held in La Fraternidad on 20 May and the meeting that the chiefs of the Honduran and Nicaraguan naval forces held in Corinto on 9 July.

It seems that all the efforts made by Nicaragua to preserve its good relations with Honduras have not quite found the required response. In addition, these actions adversely affect the much advertised peace proposals of the illustrious Honduran Government which haven't yet found the pertinent way to prevent, not only the activity of armed Somozist bands against Nicaragua, but the support and collaboration that the Honduran Army is openly giving to counterrevolutionary groups. The Honduran Army has even reached the extent of carrying out direct armed actions against our country.

We cannot fail to establish a connection between this vast campaign intended to destabilize Nicaragua and certain actions whose nature we would rather not describe, such as the unsuccessful air attack against the fuel tanks in Corinto Port which would have resulted in a massacre of incalculable consequences if this criminal attack had hit its target. According to witnesses, the plane that carried out this action came from Honduran territory and went back to it. We point this out to your excellency, demanding that pertinent measures be adopted to clear up this matter.

As we have noted in previous notes, the preservation of good relations between our two countries and the efforts to obtain an effective peace in Central America depend, basically, on the will and disposition of the responsible governments of our region, which must result in actions of unobjectionable effectiveness and which respond to the needs of each moment and situation.

The Nicaraguan Government reiterates that it wants peace and within this framework, it insists on the need to hold a meeting between the chiefs of the Honduran and Nicaraguan Armed Forces as a first and indispensable measure to prevent a greater and unnecessary deterioration of the relations between the two countries.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to your excellency my highest consideration and respect.
[Signed] Victor Hugo Tinoco acting foreign minister

ORTEGA ON WORSHIP, PEACE, RAIDS FROM HONDURAS

PA172237 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra said last night that the revolution guarantees freedom of worship and that the sects which carry out campaigns against the revolution are violating the country's laws. Commander Ortega was questioned on the subject during the news conference held at Sandino Airport a few minutes after his return from France and Spain:

[Begin recording] In order to analyze this problem of the religious sects, one must first of all stress that in Nicaragua we respect freedom of worship. The revolution has been adhering to this principle and the Sandinist Front also maintains this, but logically we cannot give free reign to the counterrevolution. When the counterrevolution tries to hide behind a religious sect in order to do its work, it immediately exposes itself to punishment under the country's laws. Here no one can be exempt from punishment under the law, if the laws are violated. [end recording]

He said that one of the reasons for his visit to France was to revitalize the French-Mexican proposal for an immediate peace in Central America. Commander Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, pointed out the need to take steps to prompt the United States to decide in favor of respectful and just negotiations for peace in the region:

[Begin recording] We believe there is a need for bilateral initiatives by these governments which are friends of both Nicaragua and the United States and we also believe there is a need for multilateral steps. In this respect the French-Mexican proposal has been a very important proposal. We believe its fundamental principles are still valid and that it would be a matter of taking more initiative by those governments which are prepared to help in this respect.
[end recording]

One of the journalists present at the news conference held by Commander Ortega last night asked about an international report which cited Ortega's remark that due to the support being extended to the former Somoza guards and the counterrevolutionary gangs, Nicaragua could be placed in a situation of declaring its solidarity with the Honduran guerrilla groups, to which Commander Ortega replied.

[Begin recording] I have to say that the situation in this region is very serious and difficult one in which Nicaragua cannot sit idly by. We told European journalists that to the extent that governments or armies get involved in these aggressive positions against the Nicaraguan people, they are giving the Nicaraguan people the right to exercise active solidarity. However, we must believe that the solution does not lie in worsening the war or the region's conflicts but should be a political or negotiated one. [end recording]

ADVANCES IN NATIONAL BROADCASTING REPORTED

PA172317 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Text] Edwin Zablah, who heads the Peoples Radio Broadcasting Corporation, CORADEP, held a news conference to explain the achievements made during the first year of this organization which manages stations confiscated from Somozists. The 15 stations which are part of CORADEP are in Chinandega, Matagalpa, Managua, Rivas, Jinotega, Ocotal, Chontales, Leon, Esteli and Bluefields and include the ones established by our revolution in Rio San Juan and Rosita in northern Zelaya.

CORADEP also gives technical assistance and maintenance. It has set up a shop for this purpose with highly qualified technicians who also make spare parts for the transmitters. CORADEP has also implemented new methods in national broadcasting. Certain stations are target at specific audiences, such as radio Exito, which is aimed at youth, La Future, with popular variety programs, and La Continental, which broadcasts selected music.

Zablah added that future plans include the training of announcers and directors, which it is believed will allow a great advance in quality which a new generation will share in national broadcasting.

D'ESCOTO ARRIVES IN COUNTRY FROM MIDDLE EAST

PA220258 Managua Radio Mundial in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel d'Escoto Brockman arrived from the Middle East in the regular flight of Cubana de Aviacion at Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport at 0900 today.

D'Escoto Brockman had headed a Nicaraguan delegation to Beirut taking a message of solidarity and support to the PLO.

The foreign minister was accompanied by Ernesto Aloma, the official in charge of the department of relations with the nonaligned countries.

CASTRO ADDRESSES CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION

PA200323 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2312 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Speech by Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, at the main celebration to commemorate children's day, held the Loma del Taburete pioneer camp in the municipality of Candelaria, Pinar del Rio Province -- live]

[Text] Dear Pioneers, relatives of Pioneers, guests, companeras and companeros:

We wanted to celebrate this day at a camping base at the same time that a Pioneer scouts center was being inaugurated near this place. Last year we celebrated it in Granma Province precisely at a Pioneer scout center. We thought it was worthwhile to stress the importance of this activity for the Pioneers, the youth and all the people.

This year we can confirm with satisfaction great progress in all these institutions that have to do with the Pioneers and youth. I recall that last year we asked the companeros of the party, the youth and people's government for an effort to develop these institutions, which have great importance and which require very few resources.

Of course, when we can we build a Pioneer palace like the national palace or other types of construction. But we do not have sufficient resources to make all the institutions of that type. However, they could not wait 10, 15 or 20 years. Specific buildings can be adapted to build a Pioneers' palace. Camps can be built. They do not all have to be like (Luis Mailiyo) or Ciudad Jose Marti. We do not have resources to build that type of camp now, but there are ways to solve the problem.

These camping centers or the Pioneer scout centers can really be built with very few resources. In fact, the idea was well received by all the provinces. It has received support from everyone. This type of idea has the luck of being well received and finding easy support. This has occurred with the workers' centers, the Pioneer palaces and the camping bases.

I have brought some data which, if I will not bore you too much, I want to give you regarding what has been done, above all since 18 July 1981, regarding what has been promoted in this activity.

We currently have 20 learning-recreational and recreational camps which in the learning-recreational period have a capacity of 15,444 Pioneers and adults and in the recreational period have a capacity of 23,541 Pioneers. As you know, these installations are used all year long, in the vacation period and in the teaching period.

On the occasion of children's day, two camps will be inaugurated, in Holguin and Camaguey, with a capacity of 300. In the learning-recreational period this will permit 3,747 pioneers and adults to enjoy them, and in the recreational period 2,073. By December a camp will be reopened in Guantanamo after its expansion. Its capacity has been increased by 100 Pioneers and adults, permitting 1,500 Pioneers and adults to pass through it during the learning-recreational period and 700 during the recreational period. I think this was backward. During the learning-recreational period there should be less. It is 700 then and 1,500 in the recreational period, since they always have a bigger capacity in the recreational period.

To summarize, by December of this year we will have a total of 22 camps, including the city of the pioneers. They will have a capacity of 15,847 Pioneers and adults in the learning-recreational period and of 23,941 in the recreational period. This will allow us to count on a material base, as far as camps are concerned, with a capacity to accommodate in a year, with 97-percent exploitation, a total of 430,885 Pioneers and adults. [applause] We are getting closer to the possibility of half a million children passing through the Pioneer camps each year.

With this established capacity, the organization can enable 153,174 Pioneers and adults to enjoy the camps in July and August.

We have 19 scout centers. The little Pioneer already spoke of a larger number because each day there are inaugurations of new scout centers. They have a capacity of 5,130 Pioneers, which permits us to put through them in a year a total of 205,074 Pioneers and adults in accordance with the rotations established for this purpose.

According to the plan established, 29 more centers will be inaugurated on children's day, that is, today. This makes a total of 48 centers with a capacity of 5,830, which will allow us to have an annual capacity of 230,147 pioneers and adults in these new centers. We will inaugurate 12 more centers of scout Pioneers, which will include a capacity of 2,290 and an annual capacity of 89,229 Pioneers and adults.

In sum, by December 1982, the Pioneer organization will have 60 centers with a capacity of 13,270, which means that according to the rotation established a total of 524,450 Pioneers and adults will stay at these centers. These installations will progressively constitute the optimum base for the activity of 212,005 Pioneers who make up the scout movement.

In reality, when one sees the things that the children learn at these scouting centers, the useful things in life and the interesting knowledge acquired there, one thinks that the day must come when all Pioneers can also be scouts.

As we already mentioned, the movement already has more than 200,000 Pioneers. We have 35 Pioneer palaces with a capacity of 9,458 with an enrollment of 93,601 [figure as heard] per week.

A total of 24 more palaces will be inaugurated on children's day, today. These palaces will have a capacity of 3,773 and an annual enrollment of 37,730 Pioneers. We will inaugurate two more palaces in December which will have a capacity of 240. This will allow for an enrollment of 2,400 Pioneers. In sum, we will have a total of 61 Pioneer palaces which will have a capacity of 13,471. They will be able to accept an enrollment of 133,731 Pioneers. With this growth rate we will be able to have installations of this kind in 61 municipalities. One can see that a giant step has been taken in the past year.

There is a new institution here. Ismael didn't tell us about it, although it is a cooperative-type of institution. As you know, Ismael -- you met him here today, he is already famous -- is the son of a cooperative peasant. A new initiative came up here called Pioneer country corners. They are small installations created in the cooperatives for agricultural production, with their own resources and possibilities. They are aimed at offering a wide range of activities that will contribute to forming the Pioneers who are the sons of cooperative members. The main activities that will be carried out in these corners are of a vocational nature, through scientific and technical circles of interest and basic units of the pioneer movement; technicians of tomorrow. The activities will be cultural, recreational, patriotic, athletic and productive through the gardens grown there. We already have three Pioneer country corners with an enrollment of 138 Pioneers. Two more corners, with an enrollment of 75 Pioneers, will be inaugurated today. We will inaugurate 5 more in December with an enrollment of 184 Pioneers. In sum, we will have 10 Pioneer country corners in the country which will have an enrollment of 397 Pioneers of peasant areas, basically from agricultural cooperatives. With these 4 branches of the network of Pioneer installations we will have 153. They will incorporate, permanently or for established periods of 1 year, a total of 1,089,463 Pioneers, guides and instructors. This capacity has been achieved with a minimum of resources, thus showing that a good idea and good will can perform miracles. The number of installations implies that 52.95 percent of the Pioneers can be incorporated in them per year. In any event, there could be Pioneers who can participate on more than one occasion in more than one type of installation. With these capacities, some 245,153 Pioneers, guides and instructors could use the installations in July and August, without counting the palaces and country corners, which also offer a plan of activities for the vacation period.

It is our intention to promote the creation of more Pioneer palaces until we have one in each municipality and to promote country corners until we have one in each cooperative.

It seems that we have a future little Pioneer who talks a lot. No? He is right around there. [Castro laughs, presumably referring to a child in the audience.]

Now we will talk about the basis of camping. But first we must note that this base in Pinar del Rio Province was chosen to celebrate this event taking into account the excellent work that the province has made in this field. This province is inaugurating today seven scout centers, three palaces, one camp and also seven new youth centers for recreation -- this is another institution. There are so many that one loses count -- Pioneer palaces, scout centers, Pioneer camps, bases for popular camping [words indistinct] and youth centers for recreation, this last one is another institution that is much in demand. Today LA JUVENTUD newspaper opened a discussion on recreation. I was reading the letters that appeared there which began the discussion. The young people are saying that they come home from the classes and there are not places for recreation, especially in very small towns. They write to us. They write from Moa, Los Arabos and other places. It is good, I feel. I think that with the same criteria used to solve these problems and few resources these youth recreation centers can also be created. We cannot forget that most of our people are young and, in addition, the rest of the people believe that they are young. [applause]

I have been able to use here material that contains general information on people's camping, on this institution, on where it is. It is of great importance for all the people. This one is not only for Pioneers. The camping base is for children, adults, the young and not so young, for everyone. It is not only for students. It is also for families. Our aspiration is that the camping bases will become recreation centers for families.

I think this idea to gather here on children's day 200 outstanding Pioneers from the city of Havana and from Pinar del Rio with their families has been excellent proof of the possibilities that this institution has for the family, because everyone came. One of the first people I found when I arrived was precisely (Marzetti). He was invited by his daughter, who was rewarded for being an outstanding Pioneer student. In this way we have also had the satisfaction of seeing many relatives invited by their children or their nephews or grandchildren. We have seen how the families have enjoyed this base, including the river. Ideas emerge. Marvelous things can be done in a clear and transparent river. It was not like in my time, when there were no ideas. I had to go to a very small river. The Manacas stream was the stream in which I first jumped into the water. It was very small. That puddle must have been 3 and 1/2 or 4 meters, but it appeared very big to me then. I learned to swim like a little dog because everyone learns to swim like a little dog. They begin with the two hands instead of the feet, not free style or Olympic style. That is how one begins, because to learn to swim the first thing that must be learned is to float, and then comes the dynamics of movement. In this sense, man is more backward than the animals. If you throw a cat into the water he will not drown. The cat swims. If you throw in a dog he will swim. There is no animal that you throw in the water that will not swim. The only animal that can drown when thrown into the water is Homo sapiens. He drowns, and I am not surprised. In a country everyone, but everyone, should know how to swim. I think all these camping bases are going to help in this.

I was telling you that I saw those pools in those small rivers. How were they made? Very simply. A constructed pool is expensive. A hole has to be dug, investments made. However, in these rivers, with a little wall, a small concrete dam, a little wall, the water level goes up and two natural pools are built with an insignificant investment in some marvelous waters.

The truth is that we were envious of that crowd of young people and relatives who were there when we arrived in this camp because it was very hot. The tour of the scout center and the activity was what apparently made us feel very hot. That pool looked like paradise. The water is clean and clear; the two little walls give a good depth that is safe for children and adults. One can swim there. Well, I think this is better than in the sports palace; better, and the waters are cleaner because they flow.

You say the water was cold? [laughter] In the middle of summer you are telling me that the water was cold. I bet you anything that if I had placed a thermometer there the water would have been at least 26 degrees. You don't know what cold water is. You don't know what cold water is. [repeats himself] Ask a European what cold water is. When they come here and swim at our beaches they think they are like a sauna, like a steam bath. To give you an example, in the GDR, in the middle of summer, the water reaches 18, 20 degrees. In Europe the people bathe in 14-degree water. In Moscow there are sportsmen who dig a hole in the snow and swim. And you tell me here that 26-degree water is cold. That is why I say that the Cuban Homo sapiens is more scared of the water than a cat. [laughter, applause]

Well, there you have a great idea. The curious thing is that (Nunez) and I were talking of this idea, and when we were explaining it to (Jaime) he said this is what they are doing in all the camping bases. This is a simple way to make pools in the rivers.

What is the matter, little friend? [addressing a child in audience] You want to go to the river, right? Are you taking him away or leaving him here? We can sit him farther up so that the crying and everything will appear on television. [laughter] Is there someone else who wants to go to the river? [laughter]

I was saying that with a few resources, these institutions are creating these camping bases. It is a very recent idea. It really began last year. The idea of people's camping is only 1 year and a few months old.

The idea of people's camping was initiated very quietly, as we didn't want to talk about something that had yet to be tested. It was the idea of using the country's natural resources, with or without investment. This idea originated in the fact that there wasn't enough room in Santa Maria del Mar, Varadero and the few other beaches for the people to relax. We wanted the people to have at least 1 week off per year.

A problem we face is that, since the school year ends at the end of June or the beginning of July, the beaches are generally empty the rest of the time, for the people only want to use them in these two months. At that time, however, the demand is 50 to 100 times greater than the opportunities. We had to break away from the old idea that one could only have vacations in Varadero and Santa Maria del Mar.

As I once said, when the country must build dozens, hundreds and thousands of houses as a very pressing need, we can't use our resources to improve the beaches. Besides, there aren't that many beaches and, as (Nunez) said, though the population increases the number of beaches doesn't.

Still, we are determined to demonstrate the opposite, for we are trying to make beaches in Alamar, in a part of (Diente de Perro). We are testing the sand and taking a good look at the place. We can't just initiate a process of creating beaches in such places. But we are making some tests and perhaps we can prove that the number of beaches can be increased. However, the old concept is that of a bourgeois country, in which a very small portion of the population could take vacations.

Nowadays, each worker in the country has a guaranteed 1-month vacation period; the problem is where these vacations should be spent. How can this be solved modestly, with the country's current resources? It was in considering this that the idea of the people's camp came up. Then the youth comrades began to work on it, very quietly.

The preliminary resources were obtained, the first phases were created and we began to see what would happen. It was presumed that the families would take their own food. Of course, there could be some things there, but the essential food could be brought from home. There was no need for food quotas. The transportation problems had to be solved. The first steps were taken, the first camping enthusiasts appeared and the movement got underway. We were already making a plan for the summer. We estimated that approximately 50,000 citizens would use these centers in July and August, particularly from Havana. We have the largest concentration of people there. Also, the Havana people are the most anxious to see some countryside and to enter into contact with nature.

We have the example of Lenin park, which was built with these objectives in mind. More than 100,000 Havana residents visit this part every week. Those who live with the tension of a city have a greater need for the peace of nature and for contact with it. For this reason, we began the plan with Havana. However, since the Province of Havana has been left with few natural places as a result of agricultural and industrial development, while the province of Pinar del Rio is famous for its bountiful natural places, which are truly beautiful and pleasant, we felt that only in Pinar del Rio could we find the right spots for the people's camping. Thus, we asked the province for cooperation and the plan was begun here. Nothing about this had been published.

I talked about this topic for the first time, when we had a little confidence in the idea, in Santo Domingo, on children's day. Then, when we had everything ready for July and August, we were hit by the dengue epidemic, so we had to suspend the plan and wait another year. We didn't do it this way at this Pioneer camp, the Jose Marti camp. We decided to face the circumstances and not to sacrifice the vacations of thousands of children, who took special hygienic measures. The children really had a very safe time. The safest institution for any child under those circumstances was the Jose Marti Pioneer camp. There wasn't a single case of a seriously ill child. Naturally, the necessary conditions were present there, to the extent that the polyclinic there has become a hospital. It had been demonstrated that the installation was excellently suited for it. There is a small hospital there, which is very well directed.

We suspended the plan in July and August. After the epidemic was eliminated, we began to implement it during the weekends, for the idea is to use these installations completely in July and August and on weekends for the rest of the year. Of course, anyone can use them during the week year-round, but since it does not coincide with the vacation period, the people prefer to use them on weekends.

The plan began in Pinar del Rio on 16 May 1981 with six permanent bases. Now, the plan has already demonstrated its success and has caused interest in other provinces, naturally, as a result of this camping phase. It is very curious that people in little towns, in the middle of the countryside, surrounded by trees and vegetation, also like to go to the camping sites. This demonstrates the interest that camping is arousing. The provinces also asked to build their bases. It was planned and great interest is being shown, to the extent that each province has at least one base.

Some 86,313 people have now visited this Pinar del Rio camp, including children, youths, adults older than 35 years old, workers and students. The record is that 949 visited for a week, 360 for 5 days, 4,270 for 3 days and 80,734 for a weekend. They have already been here, within this plan. The number of families that are participating is increasing. Through polls conducted with the first week's groups of visitors, it was learned that more than 70 percent of those questioned said that they were fully satisfied with the permanent camping base, while others said that they enjoyed it but had certain objections. Some said that there were no cigarettes or drinks for sale, that there were bad access roads, mosquitos, long trips, etc.

A very small group said that camping wasn't what they wanted. Of course, this idea is very firm. The idea that...[Castro does not complete sentence] we don't forbid people to bring their own cigarettes. We don't prohibit smoking, but we don't sell cigarettes at the camping base.

It is not forbidden for people to bring their beer or their rum -- Matusalem, Bacardi or any of them, Havana Club -- this is not forbidden, but it is not sold. This is a principle that must remain unchanged. It is a different kind of recreation. It is a different idea. Drinks are not sold. And you could see that there was a dance floor there and that the young people were having fun. It has been proven that rum is not necessary to have a party.

There was a companero from a province that told us that a little fruit wine would be good. We started with the fruit wine and ended up with pure liquor. That product is not sold here and what we think of the idea is clear.

The mosquitos, well, there are mosquitos everywhere, especially in a tropical country.

The trips, some are longer, others are shorter, according to where the camping bases are. We have a camping base over there in Guanacabibe. The trip is longer. There is a great beach there and they say that they have mosquitos there also. They are struggling against the mosquito; they fumigate and all that, but it is a jungle, most of the beach is surrounded by jungle. Imagine if in Varadero they have mosquitos when they neglect to fumigate; over there they attack you. Unfortunately, there are mosquitos all over the place.

When the first steps were being taken to begin this plan, back in April and early May last year, many youths interested in camping were asked their opinions. They said that they did not go camping more frequently because they did not have all the necessary resources and the necessary support for this type of activity. Already in Cuba there were groups of campers who did not have the resources. What they were mainly referring to was the lack of transportation, tents and places with a minimum of the necessary conditions. They said that sometimes they would go camping to places where they were not even allowed to camp. Others said that they did not have enough money to go to the camping centers that were operating -- some camping sites were located on the beaches.

The Union of Young Communists (UJC) with the support of the party, government and the people's organizations, took over the task of organizing the plan so it would answer the wishes of the people, solve the national problems, and would not be an economic burden to the state -- in other words, cost-effective. From the beginning this has been a profit-making activity. We just want to cover expenses so it will not be a subsidized activity. It is not a profitmaking activity. The expenses are calculated -- transportation, amortization, personnel that has to work, the cost of these investments -- and the funds are used in such a way that the plan is costfree, without any profit. We are not interested in profits. Profit is not the objective. Remember that if you have a transportation fleet, during part of the year, it is used mainly on weekends, but the drivers have to be responsible and capable drivers. The driver cannot be just anyone with a heavy foot on the gas pedal; he is driving a bus that is carrying families. We have to have these men on a permanent basis even if they are only used on certain days of the week. The rest of the time they are used in other activities, something is always found for them to do, but this increases the cost of transportation. It is not like in the months of July and August when they work on a daily basis. This is for a longer period of time.

Our idea with this vacation plan was to have 30 permanent bases able to accommodate 20,000 campers with an average of 680 per unit. As I already told you, all the provinces have bases. Pinar del Rio has three but this includes Pinar del Rio and Havana -- the city of Havana. Havana Province has four bases, Santiago de Cuba has two bases. These installations have permitted us to accommodate more than 100,000 people for periods of 1 week or more during the months of July and August. We can already accommodate 100,000 people during the months of July and August. Of course, these installations are used on weekends during the whole week. Fifty percent of these accommodations, distributed throughout the country, are for the people of the City of Havana. More than 75 percent of the accommodations offered in the provinces of Pinar del Rio, Havana and Matanzas, are for the use of the City of Havana.

At this time more than 42,000 people have registered for these 2 months. By the end of August we expect to reach 100,000 -- because we already have reservations, just like in a hotel. This is for these 2 months.

How much has been invested in these 30 bases? 7.7 million. [currency unspecified] This includes construction, transportation equipment and other costs. Calculate on your own how many hundreds of millions would have to be spent on hotels to accommodate 100,000 in July and August. Hundreds of millions to accommodate 100,000. To accommodate 100,000 people for a week we would have needed no less than 15 hotels with a physical capacity for 1,000 people. That at least is 15 hotels like Havana Libre to offer a weeks accommodations in July and August for 100,000 people.

We have invested 7.7 million in this. Aside from 30 installations built and equipped with tents, mats or camp beds, dishes, canteens, flashlights, lanterns, television sets, tape recorders, audio equipment, electrical plants, bicycles, and so forth, we have also put to use in this plan 142 small (Giron 2) buses, 42 trucks, 15 (Pip) cars, 6 ambulances, 30 (Niva) jeeps -- this is a new Soviet 4-wheel drive jeep that also serves as an ambulance -- 10 GAZ jeeps, 10 Lada cars and 6 motorcycles, a total of 260 vehicles. In the future we plan to have, for the use of the infirmary, a car for quick transfer of any person who gets sick, but I think that in the future we will also have a doctor in every camping base.

On the other hand, this plan includes a reasonable number of employees -- a total of 882 employees. A source for jobs has been created, a reasonable source with a very high production rate. In this figure of 882 we have included the transportation employees. The required force for 100,000 people to enjoy a week's vacation in July and August, is of 882 employees. This also includes the facilities offered during the weekends the rest of the year. How many employees would we have needed for something like this in Varadero, in Santa Maria? Not less than 15,000 employees. Fifteen hotels able to accommodate 1,000, and I calculate not less than 15,000 employees, maybe more, and this does not include transportation. Here, with transportation included, we have 882 employees of which 199 are cadres and technicians and 683 are employees.

An effort has also been made so that camping enthusiasts can acquire food at the camping bases. Approximately 4,000 tons of food are available for this plan. There is more than enough. Several ideas were put into practice. There were certain products that were not being made because of limitations in raw materials such as corn flakes, oatmeal and corn curls. Well, the agricultural sector was asked to allocate some resources; The food industry to develop some products, even coconut candy. Some coconuts were rotting because of transportation problems in Baracoa. We got some trucks and asked the industry to produce certain quantities of this candy. Perhaps this candy is still not ready because the plans are underway.

I already told you that we originally thought of bringing the food. We thought of certain food products that could be produced in the food, fishing and other industries. We also asked the foreign trade ministry to obtain, through certain socialist countries with which we have good trade relations, some canned products for this type of activity. New products were made at certain national industries and in this way we have several dozen products. We also discussed with the light industries and the local governments the production of camping goods because an industry can be born from this. It can result in the production of canned products for camping without taking anything away from the people. Without taking anything which the people are getting right now. They are surplus articles, products or imports so that nothing will be taken away from anybody. We have been obtaining a large quantity of them. These products have the prices of the parallel market. Whatever products are sold on the parallel market are sold here too. They have to be sold, right? They are not readily available products. They are limited and not rationed. They have the price of the parallel market.

It couldn't be done any other way. Of course if potatoes to be boiled are obtained, the potatoes will have whatever price is quoted. Eggs and other products are obtained at the normal price, but all these canned goods are the types sold on the parallel market.

It is precisely with these products that we are going to finance this plan. The prices of these products are not intended to make profits but to finance this plan. It is a plan that is not too bureaucratic as you can see. This is plan without bureaucracy. It isn't a plan to be paying employees but to foot the bill for it through the income received from the sale of these products at the stores which sell them. This is the only goal.

Let it be understood that if these cans are priced as one the parallel market, they are expensive. They aren't low prices. Butter is sold at the normal price but the other things at the parallel market price. The goal is to finance the plan. The idea is to help finance the plan with these products and at the same time help, although the plan was conceived based on the fact that the families were to bring their own food and prepare them here. There are, however, some products which are not on the market which have been made for this; envelopes with orange juice and lemon juice. This lemon juice is not available yet but it is very good. I am telling you this because I have been personally checking each product made by the food industry with the comrades of the youth group. I tasted the lemon juice and it is truly good. I'll bet that if you add a little bit of Havana Club it tastes better. [crowds laughs] However, [Castro laughs] it is out of the list of products sold here.

We already have some 4,000 tons of food for sale. What do we do with these products as there is enough for more than 100,000 people? All these products have been made for more than 100,000. Whatever is left over from these products which were made for the plan, will be sent to the parallel market. The idea is to maintain the production because this plan will increase each year. In making these products, we looked ahead 2 years and for this reason, we have products whose quantity would be enough for 300,000. I figure that at least 60 or 70 percent of the products acquired so far and which we are planning to produce and acquire every year, are enough for 300,000 campers. Therefore, anything is excess of what was needed for the camping program will be sent to the parallel market.

The reason for this plan, as I already mentioned, is not to make a single penny in profits. On the contrary, the idea is to make the products at the lowest cost possible so that they will have the lowest prices for the people.

For next year, we had planned to build 46 camping bases to accomodate 34,000 campers throughout the country. This would mean that this activity could be carried out for periods of 1 week or more for more than 200,000 people during the 1983 July and August vacation period. We have thought on being able to accomodate 200,000 people at these camps for July and August 1983.

Certain provinces have expressed an interest in increasing the number of bases and their capacity. We think it is possible and advisable because of the acceptance this plan has had. For these reason we had planned a total of 46 bases for the various provinces, but the provinces are proposing 70. So you can see the extent of the interest that this plan has arisen in the comrades of the party, the youth and the local governments everywhere. I was suggesting 46 and they are suggesting 70. One must take into account that these bases have been basically built with local resources. Of course, there are the tents which the country received at a fixed quantity per year that have been placed at the plan's disposal, but all these installations were built with local resources and with great participation by the local governments. The comrades of Camaguey have a beautiful place. The pools of Rio Maximo are famous. They appear in any geography book. They are several kilometers of a beautiful natural pool. The Camaguey comrades think that they can build a base there which can handle 3,000 or 3,500 people. It is an area of 3 kilometers, a beautiful place. They are interested in speeding up the plans.

The buses that we use are produced in the country. This [production] has to grow as transportation plans grow. It is more reasonable to expand a base than to build a new one.

If the proposed plan for the provinces and by the provinces is approved, we could offer to handle more than 300,000 campers in 1983. I already told you that we even have the food for this number of people this year. We could promote... [change thought] We will do everything possible to solve the bottlenecks of this plan.

What can we do? We have thought that an adequate plan for the development of camping through 1985 could be one of building 100 camping bases with an average physical capacity for 850 campers per base which would allow us to accommodate 500,000 people for 1 week or more during that year's vacation period. But don't forget that when we speak of 500,000 it is during those 2 months. From what I am told, during those 2 months we would need 75 Havana Libre hotels and, therefore, 75,000 employees to attend to the 500,000 people during those 2 months. I believe that at this rate we could have some 3,000 or 4,000 people working with these programs. But don't forget there are still 10 months, more than 40 weeks, to use the facilities on weekends or for a longer period of time should a citizen request it. We are aspiring to reach 500,000 by 1985. This is for 2 months. This is a plan; the final touches have to be made. Today the youth are administering the project, and the youth will continue to do so. It is going to be sort of an enterprise, nonprofit enterprise. Profitmaking is not the purpose of this program. The purpose is to satisfy the needs of the people.

On the subject of resources, Pinar del Rio's experience with the building of cabins is interesting. You can see them at the Taburete base, this base. Those cabins that are around there. Up to now we have only had tents. Then the Pinar del Rio comrades came up with the happy idea of trying out some of these little cabins. We are seeing them for the first time today -- the different models. They have not been very expensive -- some 290 pesos -- the most expensive one cost 390. They are built with royal palm roofs or a mixture of asbestos and asphalt, asbestos cement, and even tile roofs. All these products are locally made as well as the palms. Now we have to study these systems properly.

I am told that the campers prefer the cabins. That is what I am told, I don't know if you think the same way. They say that the tents are a bit too hot, when it rains -- although they are suppose to be waterproof -- something can always happen. In short, they are thinking about the possible construction of these cabins. It is an idea that is being studied, because ideas such as this always come up, but there will always be tents because there will always be a camper that will want to camp away from the base taking the tent with him. Maybe they would like to camp up on Loma del Taburete. Anyone could get the bright idea of pitching a tent real far up and away. It could be possible that a man with his family or a loner -- you know that there are loners -- wish to be alone. Since we don't have monasteries here [laughs] for hermits, it could be that they could solve their problem with a tent on top of Taburete or in Turquino. In short, the idea the companeros have is always to combine the two. Of course, tents are much easier. They can be pitched much faster, the cabin takes more time. It takes time but I believe the idea of the cabins is an important contribution to the program. Undoubtedly the cabins last much longer. One of these cabins could be good for 10 years. The problem with the tents is that they deteriorate too fast in our climate. It is appropriate to offer these two options -- the rustic cabins and the tents. What we don't want is to turn the camping base into a hotel. If we begin to urbanize, it would no longer be a camping base and would end up being a tourist center and it would have to be handed over to the National Tourist Institute, INTUR, or one of those institutes. This is for the people and it is not a profitmaking business.

What did you say? [speaking to someone in the audience] they always want to do a little bit because if we also paint, some painting. It is true, the tents are brought from the socialist area, but if we could bring the lumber and build the cabins it would be better.

What we will have to do is fight against the temptation of converting these bases into classic tourist centers. Although seeing this today I can see that it has reached an almost international level; this camping base with those natural pools. You come here in contact with nature, to walk, to solve the problems in a simple manner, the complete opposite of free Havana. This is not free Havana and should not become free Havana.

All around the country, with the help of the proper organizations, sites, with favorable conditions for the development of these activities have been selected. In each of these sites permanent bases have been established to promote camping, hiking and communing with nature. It is important to point out the idea of a permanent base compared to that of the traditional camping site. In the traditional camping site, the area is limited to the housing area or tents are pitched in a set location. The area of activity is outlined within determined limits and usually it functions on schedules and programs. In a permanent base the area for use is not limited although areas of interest could be made off limits. The tents can be pitched wherever the camper prefers within the areas authorized for camping. The areas of activities depend on the efforts the camper is willing to make and the time he has. There is no schedule or program of activities and you are not obliged to participate in the organized activities.

The areas have been selected taking into account their natural beauty, the proximity to rivers, valleys, elevations, forests, and so forth, as well as the availability of drinking water, access to transportation and camping area.

As part of the improvements made in each permanent base, some facilities have been built to protect the environment and offer help to the camper. These are housing for security personnel, stores, infirmaries and latrines. Areas have been set aside for cooking, burning and disposing of garbage and washing cooking utensils.

We have struggled with much success to make the buildings and the material used blend in with the environment. Some things have been introduced to develop activities such as bike riding, swimming, bonfires, dancers, listening to music and watching television. This is complemented with other offers that the campers can acquire by renting or purchasing such as some products that are indispensable during their stay at the base. Apart from transportation, they can rent the tents, the inflatable rafts, hammocks, (nylon), lanterns or flashlights, canteens and dishes. The camper can also purchase food although the cooking will have to be solved mainly by the camper. I don't know if (Marqueto) knows how to cook. Probably there is someone in the family that is a good cook. He is the cook? [talking to someone in the audience]

There is something very important about the price policy for this plan. I've already explained it. We've followed the concept that the campers should be free to participate in the activities during their stay at the permanent base. Various activities are offered there. But it is very important for the campers to promote and organize the activities they like, taking into account the characteristics and limitations of the natural area in which the base is located.

Activities should be organized to take care of the flora, the fauna and nature in general. The forest rangers at these bases organize, promote options and give support to the development of activities in which the campers are interested. These personnel will gradually increase their role in promoting various camping-related activities as new options to be offered. This is particularly important during the vacation period, when the campers' stay may be as much as a week.

In addition, the forest rangers will be charged with administering the resources, giving the campers the essential things they need, guaranteeing compliance with the rulers of collective coexistence and promoting the care of nature, of the people's property and respect for our peasants' belongings and customs.

We can say that this kind of activity is well-liked and meets one of the needs of our people. The experimental plan, under the current implementation stage, has demonstrated that it is possible to carry out a massive and organized mobilization of the youth and of the people for recreation in a natural environment, while at the same time preserving nature.

It is true that we have great difficulties to overcome, beyond the problem of obtaining the necessary funds for this stage. We must carry out an educational campaign. We must explain the ideals, so that our determination can definitely succeed in all of its aspects.

It isn't easy, for example, to break the habits of those who reduce camping to staying at a known tourist installation or at the beach, or to change the opinion of those who lose their patience with the mosquitos, those who get upset with the plan because it rained and the swollen river does not look suitable for swimming or those who demand city comforts that have nothing at all to do with camping. Undoubtedly, we must explain all of this very clearly to those who ask to participate in this plan, in order to prevent disappointments.

Camping, in addition to being an attractive recreational option and a healthy way to spend free time, is of great value to those who do it. Through camping our mental and physical health improves and we fight against a sedentary existence, obesity and stress, which are city ailments. Through it, we are able to truly see our country and its natural beauties, which stimulate our patriotism, and we thereby prepare ourselves to defend our territory.

Camping has its advantages over other forms of recreation. To a certain extent, it incorporates all of them. This activity can be enjoyed by people of all ages. People can go camping individually, as couples or groups, or as a family. We can go camping in both summer and winter. We can go camping for short periods, weekends and long periods, a week or more.

At the permanent bases, you can get involved in all kinds of recreational activities, with freedom to choose what you want to do and the time when you want to do it. We will find the necessary minimal conditions there at truly economic prices. We must note the increasing trend observed in the participation of families in camping.

Some people questioned that which has been called the social impact on nature. These questions have been answered through this experience. Some expressed their logical concern about the problems that could derive from a massive mobilization of people in camping, people who know nothing about nature, who are not accustomed to it and who haven't had the minimal training required to live with nature and to appreciate it without destroying its beauty. They also offered advice as to what should be done.

We must note that from the very beginning of this plan we have depended upon the valuable cooperation of Comrade Antonio Nunez Jimenez. [applause] He helped us to take measures to give basic training to campers, in order to protect the flora, the fauna and nature in general.

We can say that, except for a few isolated cases of negative action, the general results are satisfactory. We know of places of exceptional beauty and importance from the touristic, scientific and historic point of view that have received greater protection and are through the presence of camping bases there. In addition, they have increased in social importance. But this aspect must not be neglected. We must create a culture of nature among our people by taking people to it, teaching them to take care of it and to enjoy it and by converting the campers movement into a powerful army of protectors of the flora, the fauna and nature in general. In this experimental phase of the camping plan, we must recognize the great work carried out by the Pinar del Rio particularly the local government and the union of communist youth under the party's guidance. They initiated this plan. Without any experience and in record time, they selected the places and proceeded to build the first camping bases. Thanks to their efforts, the bases continue to operate, and they serve not only the Pinar del Rio population but the people of Havana as well.

I believe that this activity shows that large resources are not always needed to solve important problems. Perhaps the most impressive aspects of this program are the limited resources that were demanded for it, the spirit of cooperation, the enthusiasm, the party's participation at the local level and the participation of the local governments. I believe that any person who likes nature must be impressed when he comes to a place like this and sees the things here. However, what has it cost? It has been possible to build this with a minimal amount of resources. This demonstrates what good ideas and the will of men can do.

Now all of the people in the provinces are looking for beautiful places that are suitable for this. They are discovering the country. They are discovering it. They had marvelous natural treasures that weren't being used for anything. People hardly knew that they existed. For example, how many citizens in this country knew that a place like this existed, with these mountains, with this river, with this nature.

I have been told that there are other bases that have even more beautiful things. In addition, these are diverse opportunities. The camper can come here one day and to Soroa another day. I believe that in the future he can even go to other provinces and that the people of other provinces can come to this area.

It is an opportunity for the people to get to know their country and to get to know nature. Nearly from the moment of birth we are told about the Vinales Valley, the Yumuri Valley, the bridge at Cangilones del Rio Maximo, the natural bridge of (Vipitiri), the Sierra Maestra and Baracoa. But how many Cubans have actually been to these places?

The country's beautiful spots are being discovered through this program. The people are getting to know them. We've had to face difficulties and the inclemency of the weather. We just recently had two cyclones. With the same spirit with which we worked on the beaches in east Havana, in this province, in the province of Havana and in the city of Havana, with this same spirit we worked on the camping bases. There was a camping base that was under-water after the rains. It was a place that had never flooded before. I think it's the one called Picadura, Pica Pica -- well, more or less. They sound alike. Pica Pica. That is located in Minas de Matahambre, but you should see it, for it has already been rebuilt. It is already rebuilt despite the two cyclones. It worked.

Last year, it was the dengue; this time, it has been the hurricanes, but despite all of this, we have been able to maintain and implement the plans, thanks to the hard work of the companeros and youth of the provinces.

We can do things like this and we can advance, despite difficulties that may arise, despite economic difficulties. This is what the revolution and socialism are all about; the ability to face and solve problems, regardless of how much time it takes; the ability to find revolutionary solutions.

What I like about these Pioneer camps, the scouts' centers and this camping base, particularly, is that they represent truly revolutionary solutions to problems.

A super-rich and superdeveloped country might be crazy enough to build all of the hotels that would be needed -- it might be -- but I don't think it could create a more healthy source of recreation than this. I don't think that they could carry out a more healthy activity than this. I am absolutely sure that nothing can bring more joy to a child than these activities by the scout-Pioneers. These activities are a greater source of joy than the camps. The camps are recreational and, during the school period, there is both study and recreational time. But the activities at the scout centers are of an important educational nature. They build character in our children. And these centers are also a tremendous source of recreation.

We have seen the things that the children learn in these scout centers; they learn how to cook in a thousand different ways. I had never seen a mud-covered egg boiled in water, but yessir, they cover eggs with mud and then put them on the fire. Perhaps they taste better that way. The things they do here! The knots they tie! The things they know about the forest, the fauna! How they can distinguish among all of the trees, the animals! How they can solve any kind of problem! They can put up a tent in 28 seconds. You have to be an expert to do that in 28 seconds. I bet that at home they can make their beds in 12 seconds.

They can get up and get dressed with their eyes closed. And they can pick up everything -- their knapsacks, even their rifles -- in the same way. Indeed, even the cartridges for their rifles. Incredible! the things they learn -- and this is incredibly useful. This discipline imparted in the scout centers will certainly have a great impact on the characters of these children. This contact with nature will certainly have a great influence on their lives and characters.

The movement now has 212,000 members. We would like to see all of the country's children belong to this movement, and we would like to continue building scout centers, since they are easy to build. We like to continue building camping bases, camps and youth scout centers. We like to continue with the...what's the name of those fields?...the [word indistinct] fields.

Along with developing the cooperatives, I believe that this movement could later be extended to agricultural enterprises. The fields could be extended to agricultural enterprises, considering the results and our experiences with the cooperatives. I think that they could be extended. I believe that all of these initiatives are good.

Just as last year we urged provincial party people, the people's governments, the youth and mass organizations to support this activity in order to achieve these excellent results, today we cannot fail to express our recognition, gratitude and satisfaction, because we are seeing the great achievements that have been made in only a year. I think that all of the municipalities, including the very smallest, will continue to work toward the goal of having a pioneers' palace in every municipality. I had not mentioned this.

Let the provinces continue to develop scout centers, camping bases and recreation centers. Let's see what use we can make of the debate that JUVENTUD REBELDE has initiated. Even with scarce and modest resources, doing voluntary work -- which is often done -- and with the cooperation of the people -- and fortunately, activities that involve children and the young and that bring direct benefits to the people always enjoy popular sympathy -- we could go on with these plans, which are so important not only because they make life more pleasant and healthy but because they provide a better preparation, build men capable of living in any kind of situation, with very little, and mold our children. These scouts look like soldiers. They look like an army of pioneers, with the zeal and spirit of soldiers. They give clear, quick, concise and intelligent answers.

Imagine what the country will be like if we are able to develop these institutions, if all of the children are permitted this experience. We should have no doubt about the validity of the statement by the small companera pioneer when she said that they are getting ready to become the relief of the vanguard and the communists of the future.

I have no doubts about children who receive the kind of upbringing that the Cuban youth are receiving. We are speaking of education, because we are in the vacation period. However, we can complement the vacation by making further improvements, by increasing efficiency each year.

I have no doubt that children with this kind of education, with the education being given to these scout-Pioneers, will be the vanguard of the future, the communists of the future. Indeed, we can expect more, that they will be the vanguard of the vanguard, communists among communists. Free Fatherland or Death! We will win!

COLOMBIAM-19 PROPOSES DIALOGUE TO ACHIEVE PEACE

PA220422 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0340 GMT 22 Jul 82

[Text] Bogota, 21 Jul (EFE) -- The 19 April Movement (M-19) today proposed a national dialogue to achieve peace in Colombia and it asked congress to work to solve the problems of the people.

In a document sent to the Colombian Senate, the guerrillas indicated that they trust that President-elect Belisario Betancur Cuartas will keep his promises of helping the less favored classes.

They also said they are willing to lay down their weapons as long as a general amnesty for political prisoners is decreed, the abuse of the state of siege is avoided, the country is demilitarized and "the oppressed" are respected.

The top leadership of the M-19, a leftwing guerrilla group, told the legislators that they have the duty of not opposing a great national agreement, cooperating with the good objectives of Betancur who will take office on 7 August.

In the document, the M-19 expressed total opposition to an amnesty bill presented to congress by the Liberal Party under the sponsorship of former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen because "amnesty is not proposed unilaterally but is the result of dialogue."

DOMINICAGOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES MINOR CABINET SHAKE-UP

FL211710 Bridgetown CANA in English 1650 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, July 21, Cana -- Dominica's Prime Minis. Eugenia Charles has taken on responsibility for tourism in a minor cabinet shake-up announced here today.

A government statement said that effective July 15, the Ministry of Tourism, which was under the portfolio of communications and works minister, Henry Dyer, had been added to Miss Charles' responsibilities.

The statement gave no reasons for the change in cabinet portfolios, but it also announced that a new board of directors had been appointed to oversee the tourism affairs here.

According to the statement, the Tourist Trade Development Board, formerly the Dominica Tourist Board, is under the chairmanship of businessman Dermott Southwell.

He replaces parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Education and Health, Henry George, who served as chairman of the Dominica Tourist Board.

The appointment of the new board took effect from July 7.

DOMINICAN REPUBLICU.S. EMBASSY BOMBED, NO ONE HURT 21 JUL

PA211503 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1450 GMT 21 Jul 82

[Text] Santo Domingo, 21 Jul (LATIN-REUTER) -- A man threw a bomb at the U.S. Embassy in the Dominican Republic today, but it did not explode, according to the police. The report added that the attacker, Juan Herrera Paulino, was shot and wounded by police as he tried to flee. Herrera apparently wanted to take U.S. Ambassador Robert Anderson hostage in order to be able to leave the country, the police said, without specifying what charges have been lodged against him. No embassy employee was injured in the incident, which occurred shortly after the embassy opened this morning.

GUYANAREPLY TO VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL STILL PENDING

FL192332 Bridgetown CANA in English 2313 GMT 19 Jul 82

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, July 19, CANA -- The Venezuelan Government has formally proposed the holding of bilateral talks with Guyana within the framework of the 1966 Geneva agreement for a peaceful solution of the border issue between the two countries.

"Some ten days ago I submitted to Guyana Foreign Minister Rashleigh Jackson Venezuela's formal proposal for bilateral talks on the issue, but as yet we have had no reply, Venezuela's ambassador to Guyana, Sadio Garavini told CANA today.

A Guyana Foreign Ministry official said that minister is now out of the country at a meeting of non-aligned officials in Cyprus, and that she was unaware of the communication.

Ambassador Garavini also rejected any possibility of Venezuela using armed force to solve its border issue with Guyana.

Responding to reports in the local media quoting Venezuelan Vice Admiral Rafael Bertorelli as saying that force could not be ruled out, Ambassador Garavini responded, "Venezuelan radio reports of the Bertorelli press conference quote him as speaking of military action in a wider regional context, including one that could be defensive action as well.

"The Government of Venezuela absolutely rejects the use of armed force against Guyana over the border issue, and public opinion in Venezuela fully supports our honouring the Geneva agreement to seek only a peaceful solution to the problem, the ambassador said.

BRIEFS

NEWS AGENCY COOPERATION WITH DPRK -- Georgetown, Guyana, July 21, CANA -- The state-run GUYANA NEWS AGENCY [GNA] has signed a cooperation agreement with the CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. At the ceremony Korean ambassador to Guyana, Pak I-hyon, said the exchange would further develop relations between Guyana and his country. Courtney Gibson editor of the GNA, described the agreement as a further step towards building a new international information and communication order. [Text]
[Bridgetown CANA in English 2223 GMT 21 Jul 82 FL]